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Volume 14, Number 40 **October 4th, 1979**

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About the Cover—

Sue Muller lovingly holds a fat flounder taken last fall. The fall run of flounder is just beginning all over the island, so see the articles on flounder fishing in this issue. *Photo by W.A. Muller*

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge St., P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Telephone: (516) 725-4200. Second Class Postage is paid at Sag Harbor, N.Y. $.50 cents per copy, back issues $.65 per copy. *Subscriptions:* One-Year, 50 Issues—$11; Two-Years, 100 Issues—$19; Three-Years, 150 Issues—$27. Photographs and written contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All consideration will be given these requests; however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new addresses. Please allow two weeks for the address change to be made. USPS-588-160

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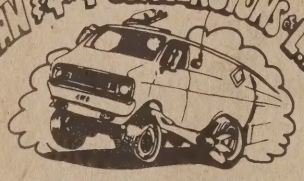
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The Fighting Chair

with Scott Simons

N.M.F.S. INVESTIGATION OF TUNA SLAUGHTER COMPLETE

In the August 23 issue of The Long Island Fisherman, it was reported in this column that the National Marine Fisheries Service, at our request, was investigating the tuna incident that developed off Block Island that previous Friday. Briefly, a tuna purse seiner, the "Pacific Queen," set its net around a large school of supposedly "giant" tuna. At the time, purse seiners were still allowed to legally catch giant bluefin tuna in excess of 300 lbs. until a quota had been filled. The quota for school tuna from 14 lbs. to 115 lbs. had already been filled and the season had been closed for these smaller fish. The third classification of bluefin tuna is the medium size fish of 115 lbs. to 300 lbs. Under the tuna laws presently in effect, it is illegal to net these fish at any time, because they are at an extremely low population level due to the overfishing of commercial purse seiners in the past. One of the major purposes of the tuna regulations is to protect these medium size fish, because they will be the future breeders on which the health of the entire fishery will lie in the near future.

While the season for giant tuna was still open, purse seiners were permitted to possess a small number of 115-300 lb. tuna as an "incidental catch," which was three per cent of the total catch of the giants the vessel had on board. In other words, if a tuna purse seiner had 100,000 lbs. of giant tuna in her hold, she was permitted to have up to 3,000 lbs. of medium size fish. Any fish in the net that would exceed the quota are supposed to be released—dead or alive. What appears to have happened in this case is that the Pacific Queen set its net around a school of tuna in the Mudhole off Block Island that it believed to be the legal giants. But it quickly became apparent that the vast majority of the fish in the net were less than 300 lbs. and, therefore, illegal, and the rest of the tuna were barely above the minimum. Upon discovering this, the Captain of the vessel should have immediately opened the purse of the net and released the protected fish unharmed. Unfortunately, this was not the case.

Our information is that the entire catch was landed and brought aboard the vessel. In an attempt to placate the boats that were "sportfishing" in the area, the Pacific Queen started "giving" some of the fish away, even trading them for six-packs of beer. Up until that point, many of the sportfishermen were upset that the Pacific Queen had set its net around the bluefin that they were trying to catch on rod and reel. Unfortunately, when the tuna giveaway started, many of these so-called "sportfishermen" saw nothing but dollar signs, and sold out whatever scruples that they ever pretended to have had. Rod and reel fishermen are allowed to catch one medium-size tuna a day, but it must be on rod and reel. As most of the boats involved were charterboats, they took eight fish from the purse seiner: one for the captain, one for the mate and one each for each of the six customers aboard. Upon returning to Montauk, all claimed that the fish had been caught on rod and reel and sold the fish for a dollar a pound. The illegal fish averaged over 200 lbs., so the charterboats reaped more than $1,600 from their illegal act.

NMFS immediately launched an investigation at our request, and enforcement officials were waiting at the dock when the Pacific Queen pulled into port to monitor the catch. The results of the investigation are as follows:

1. More than fifty per cent of the catch landed by the Pacific Queen was of the illegal size less than 300 lbs.

2. Approximately 150 fish were illegally off-loaded at sea to the sportfishing boats.

3. The sportfishing boats illegally claimed that they had caught the fish on rod and reel.

4. Those dealers who purchased the fish knew that the tuna had been caught illegally.

The first action taken by NMFS was to immediately impound the

money that the Pacific Queen received for the catch. The vessel will not receive any of this money until after the case has been concluded and the fines and penalties have been paid. What these fines are will be determined after a lengthy legal process, which will also determine what actions should be taken against the sportfishermen and buyers who participated in the illegal episode. Our guess is that the charterboats and private boats involved will be fined an amount equal to what they sold the tuna for, but no punitive fines will be levied. Those who purchased the illegal fish will probably get away with it because it would be a very difficult and time-consuming court case.

We are very disturbed with everything that has been happening lately with our fishery for giant bluefin tuna. It seems that virtually every giant caught these days is being sold to the Japanese buyers, and greed has now destroyed this once-great sportfishery. To the north of us, big game rod and reels have been turned in for the more efficient harpoons, with disgusting results. Once upon a time, before the Japanese arrived and started paying up to $2.00 a pound for giants, virtually all of the bluefin tuna being caught on rod and reel were either tagged and released, or mounted. Virtually all of the scientific information we have on the migration habits of tuna have come from tuna that have been tagged by sportfishermen and caught at a later date by commercial purse seiners and long-line fishermen. Now, it is an extremely rare occasion for anyone to tag a fish and release it.

To overcome this problem, NMFS decided to fill this information gap by doing some tagging on its own. At the close of the purse seine fishery for giants this year, NMFS hired one of the purse seine vessels for tagging purposes. A school of giant tuna ranging from 700-900 lbs. was netted in Cape Cod Bay, and the NMFS officials on board the vessel started tagging and releasing the fish. After a color-coded, eight to eighteen inch long nylon tag had been put into an individual fish, the purse of the net would be opened to allow the tuna to escape. But before you could bat an eye, a fleet of "sportfishing" boats armed with harpoons arrived on the scene. Allen Peterson, NMFS Northeast Region Director, was on the purse seiner, the "White Dove," and said that about thirty harpooners arrived and crowded around the mouth of the net with cocked harpoons. As each tagged fish was released, they were quickly stuck, setting new world records for the shortest tag returns. One giant tuna was stuck after swimming only five feet out of the net! Despite being ordered to stop harpooning the fish, which was illegal under the circumstances, the so-called sportfishermen refused to stop harpooning the released fish and eventually Mr. Peterson ordered that the net be opened so that the remainder of the school could escape.

Something must be done about the entire tuna situation before it is too late. As a first step, we'd like to see NMFS put a moratorium on **ANY** type of fishing for giant and medium size tuna until the tuna stocks can be rebuilt to the level they were before the West Coast tuna fleets arrived off our coast in the mid-Fifties and almost wiped out the species. Sportfishermen could still fish for giant tuna, but would have to tag and release any fish they catch—which any sportfisherman wouldn't mind...providing they are what they claim to be.

Scott J. Lemons

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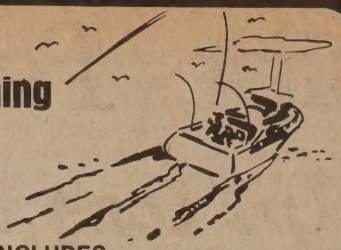

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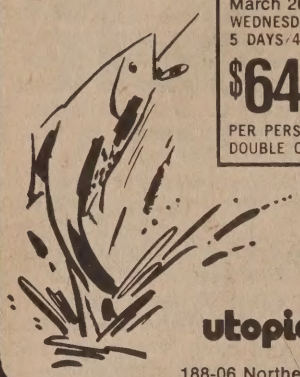

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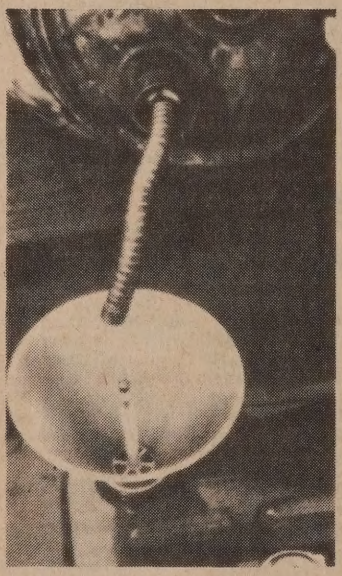

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Established safety provisions and procedures were followed. Passengers quickly donned lifejackets as a "Mayday" (containing Loran C numbers) went out on the VHF. Two large life rafts were put into the water and all passengers got on, followed by the crew. It all went like clockwork. Rescuing C.G. helicopters picked everyone up very shortly thereafter. Our congradulations to Captain, crew and Coast Guard for their fast and efficient handling of the situation.

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A film by AFTCO Corporation of interest to rod builders and serious fishermen depicting how aluminum butts and guides are made will be shown continuously on Sunday, October 7th.

BLUEFIN TUNA PURSE SEINE FISHERY

Allen Peterson, Northeast Regional Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), announces that the 1979 purse seine catch of giant-size bluefin tuna amounted to 305 tons. Giant-size tuna are those weighing 300 pounds or more and usually nice years old. The purse seine fishery for giant tuna that began on August 15 lasted less than a month. The season closed for this type vessel on September 12 when the 300 ton quota was reached.

The fishery for giant bluefin tuna remains open for rod and reel, handline, and harpoon fishermen.

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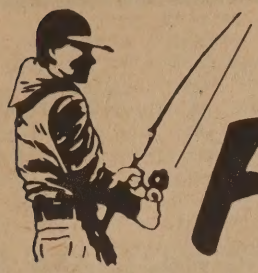

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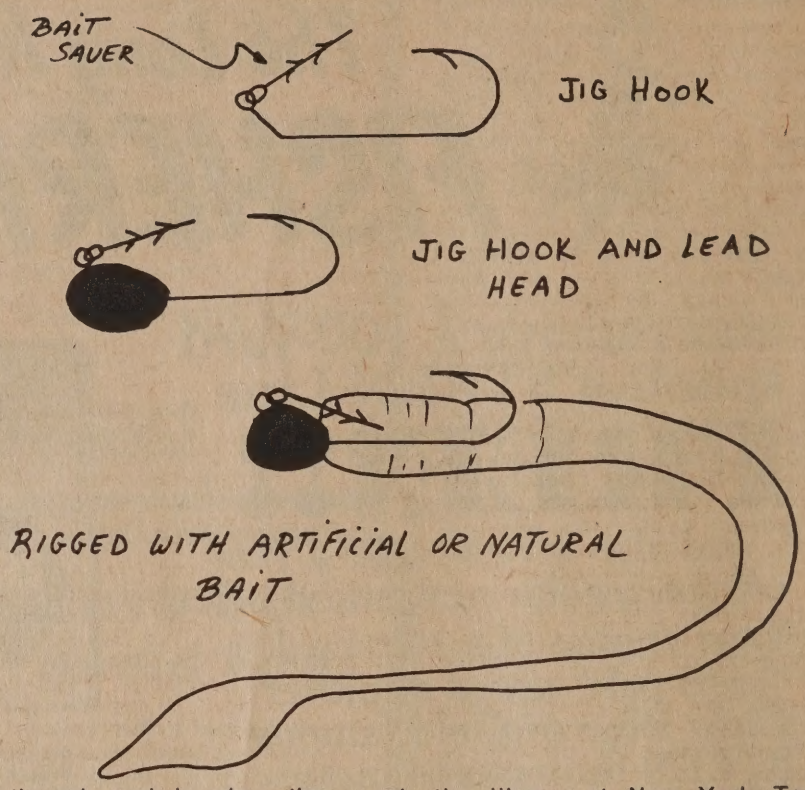
FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

HOOK, MANAGEMENT AND PCB'S

"KEEPER" WORM HOOK?!! Although the peak of the weakfish season is already past, there still remains considerable interest in the tackle and techniques that were developed for spring weakfish, because fishermen have discovered that these techniques work well for other species too. John McGeever wrote us asking about the use of a certain type of hook. He luckily included an excerpt from the Midland Tackle Co. catalog that included both the item number and a picture. "I am enclosing a picture of a hook that came into my possession recently. I have talked to several people, including tackle dealers, and nobody seems to know how this hook is rigged or whether it is intended for use in fresh or salt water. I found a picture of the hook in the Midland Tackle Co. catalog, but it gives no details on how to rig this hook. I would appreciate any help that you can give me." Well, we called the Midland Tackle Co. in Sloatsburg, New York. They have always been helpful in providing information about tackle items and this time was no exception. The hook can be used in either fresh or salt water. The key is not location or species sought, but rather the technique that the fisherman will be using. Normally, when a hook is designed to better hold onto a bait, the shank of the hook will have burrs between the bend and the eye of hook. However, one runs into a serious problem in this regard when the hook is a jig hook; that is, jig hooks are bent along the shaft at about a 45° angle just below the eye. This allows the hook to be cast with a leadhead so that the eye of the hook will protrude from the top of the lead head. Ordinarily, the burrs on the shaft of such a hook would be covered over by lead during the molding process. To get around this problem, a short length of wire is added to the eye of the hook and this wire has the familiar bait-holding burrs. When a seaworm, plastic worm, or any bait for that matter, is added to the leadhead, the bait is pushed up onto this length of wire as well as onto the jig shaft, as shown in the accompanying diagram. I believe that such a jig would be ideal for working sand worms over the bottom regardless of the season, but fishermen may find a use for this jig in the weakfishing that usually develops off the beach in the South Shore ocean at this time of the year. I can also see an application in fluke fishing. A squid strip or a sand eel threaded onto this jig and then bounced across a bar might be very effective. Even in the fall, striped bass sometimes go through periods when they want only live bait. A whole sand worm on this jig might work for bass in Long Island Sound and in the inlets of the South Shore. It probably looks like a weakfish jig, but appearances are sometimes deceiving and this technique may have wide application.



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS? Francis A. Kuhlman, a chemist from Brooklyn writes: "To properly identify myself—I am a subscriber to The Long Island Fisherman, a Long Island fisherman myself for about thirty years, and an avid reader of your magazine. I am also a chemist, which brings me to the reason for this letter. I am a member of several of the technical and scientific societies, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science. I do not know if you are a member or whether you receive **Science** magazine. The July 20 issue of the magazine has an article entitled, "Management of Multispecies Fisheries." I found the article to be interesting—what I understood of it! With your background, it would probably mean a great deal more to you." Thanks for the tip. No, I had not seen the article. I gave up my membership in A.A.A.S. some years ago when the magazines, which come every week, began to push me out of the house. Seriously, I do look at **Science** since the library at New York Tech receives it. However, like all of us in the field today, I sometimes get behind in my reading. Thanks to your tip I got hold of it and I am now in the process of reviewing it. In subsequent versions of this column, I will present any information from that paper which may be relevant to the readers. A casual glance at the article produced both praise and sadness. Multispecies management is definitely called for since there is no species of fish that stands alone in the ocean as biologically independent of other species. All living things in the ocean interact and, therefore, the development of management plans should strive to infuse enough flexibility into those plans to account for as yet poorly understood relationships. I believe that the days of counting fish and then reaching sweeping conclusions about the vitality of a stock should pass into history with the covered wagons. Recent plans from the Fisheries Management Councils have begun to recognize this need. Participating on the Squid and Butterfish sub-panel, I encouraged that some percentage of the squid and butterfish stocks be allowed to remain unharvested in recognition of the role that these two creatures play as prey for major game fish. Up to this point, we have been looking at the size of the stock and then

allotting a percentage to U.S. fishermen and the remainder to foreign permit-holding fishermen. But what of the percentage to be allotted to the ocean ecosystem?? So, I applaud the concept of multispecies management and I was glad to see it discussed in this article. However, I remain sad that the old methods of analysis and evaluation remain the basis for our decision-making process. We need creativity and progressive thinking in marine biology. New methods, new theories, new techniques, and new blood. As I said, I have only had a chance to review the article quickly and, therefore, the above comments should not be taken as criticism of the authors of the paper in question, but rather of the stagnation within the entire field of marine science.

PCB RULING A PLUS! The July, 1979 issue of Outdoor Life reported that a recent court ruling may allow the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) to better control the dumping of PCBs without having to prove that the chemical causes cancer in humans. Up until this ruling, the EPA was not in a position to restrict PCB dumping, although local, state and municipal governments were able to reduce dumping and control the human consumption of PCBs by removing certain species of fish from the safe-to-eat list. In the Hudson River, for example, eels, striped bass, and white perch were mentioned as possibly presenting a danger to human health. The Food and Drug Administration safe level of PCBs in fish had been listed at five parts per million, although tht was recently lowered to two parts per million. However, levels as high as several hundred parts per million have been found in some fish—particularly eels caught in the Hudson River. PCBs, short for Poly Chlorinated Biphenyls, have been shown to be very dangerous toxic chemicals that produce a variety of symptoms when consumed in large amounts. The symptoms range from skin lesions to neuromuscular disorders to cancer and death. Since companies have been dumping the chemical for several decades in large amounts and since the chemical is not readily converted into less harmful or harmless substances, the PCB menace is a real one that will be with us for a long time, and there is a definite threat to human life and health where the exposure to the chemical is at an unsafe level. Years ago, we urged our readers to limit their consumption of striped bass to once per week and discouraged our readers from eating any bass caught in or near the Hudson River. The amount of PCBs being dumped into the environment has diminished over the last six years or so and there are some indications that the future, as far as human health is concerned, of PCB contamination may be improving.

TWENTY PER CENT OF THE STRIPERS DIDN'T PASS THE TEST IN 1976! Sixty-five bass were tested in 1976 by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and twenty per cent were shown to contain PCB concentrations in excess of five parts per million. Officials who have been testing the environment for signs that the PCB problem is improving tell us that levels in fish have been declining steadily. Now, not all fish are affected equally. Those species that spend most of their life in the open sea, such as blues, weaks, flounder, fluke, etc., have been shown to contain very low levels of PCBs by and large. However, it is the anadromous fish that feed in saltwater and spawn in freshwater that have posed the biggest problem. Although some fatty freshwater species have also been shown to contain high and dangerous levels of PCBs, few of these fish are of commercial significance. Anglers in affected areas were warned not to consume these freshwater fish.

NEW STUDY WILL HOLD SOME ANSWERS. The DEC has begun testing one thousand fish from our waters for PCB contamination and the results from that study should tell us whether or not fish like the striped bass, which often exceeded the old FDA level limit, will now be safer to eat. Now that the FDA level has been reduced to two parts per million, it is unclear whether or not levels have declined enough to allow most of the fish tested to fall below the FDA level.

FINDINGS COULD AFFECT COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES! Rulings and regulations about PCBs do not affect sport fishermen directly, although there are, as we mentioned, some clear implications for our eating habits. However, FDA rulings about PCBs do affect interstate shipments of fish and if a species is found to harbor higher levels of PCBs than the two parts per million permissible limit now in effect for PCBs, commercial fishing for striped bass could be severely affected. If the State of New York also imposes the two parts per million level and if the bass tested are shown to have levels above this, then commercial fishing for striped bass in the State could be restricted—at least for the time being. In many ways, it is an interesting dilemma since sport fishermen—many of whom have wanted stripers to be given game fish status, may achieve the goal of banning commercial fishing for stripers without any formal legislation. In the meantime, the price of bass goes ever higher and more and more people are seeking to catch them and sell them. Also, since the last big year classes of bass were in the late Sixties and early Seventies before PCB dumping was reduced, it is doubtful that any of the large fish tested will show any significant decline in PCB levels.

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OLD TIMERS' CORNER

"The way it was..." with Matt Ahern

LETTERS

Of all those things a fishing scribe must take care to avoid when writing a column pertaining to old-time fishing, one truly heads the list. He must be sure not to become overly enthusiastic and, thereby, unconsciously gild the lily. Many times as I write these columns, I find it best to stop a minute and question my memory. Was fishing really that good? Or am I being carried away by the dark recesses of my mind? Have I fallen victim to wishful thinking?

This, as I say, is uppermost in my mind, for I don't wish to lead anyone astray as to exactly how good the fishing was in those long, gone days. Lord knows we are all children of that racy old boy, Adam, and are therefore heir to our share of Doubting Thomases. But every once in awhile, I receive letters from old-timers letting me know that those events I describe are exactly the way they remember them. This confirmation, you can bet, is something for which I'm thankful.

One such letter arrived awhile back from Scott Kalechstein of Brooklyn. Scott made particular reference to the Old-Timers' Corner I did on Sheepshead Bay party boats (Issue #44, 1978), in which I told of a record catch of monster sea bass and porgies made aboard the old steam yacht Au Revoir while fishing off Beach Haven, New Jersey.

When I wrote the article, I described the huge porgies and two-foot-long sea bass lying all over the deck and, of course, was writing from memory alone. Every fisherman, I wrote, had at least one hundred of these huge fish. There were so many, those happy anglers couldn't carry them all away and so the surplus was left for the mates to sell to the Brooklyn housewives of the day. Had I, as a knee-pants kids, been overly impressed? Had the passing years played tricks with my fertile memory? Was I unintentionally giving readers a dose of pure hokum? These were my anxious thoughts.

But I need not have worried. Scott wrote and told me he had been aboard the Au Revoir that eventful day and he alone accounted for eighty-nine porgies and sixty-seven sea bass (plus three bergalls). Thanks again, Scott, for you have restored faith in my memory. Also to prove that no matter how wild the fishing, those bergalls will get in their licks.

Sid Ornstein of Peekskill, New York, is another enthusiastic reader, an all-around grand guy, and an excellent fisherman. Sid sends letters, diagrams, photos, and frequently makes welcome phone calls—all of which are greatly appreciated. Just want to say: thanks again, Sid.

Matt checking a day's mail.

Another faithful reader is Ben Thornblom of Oceanside. Ben is eighty-years-old and fishes as often as he can—which is considerable. This past spring, he spent a month or so in Virginia, fishing just about everyday. Ben graciously sent me photos of two-foot sea bass, similar to those previously mentioned. I guess that's where our monster bass went, because I haven't seen a two-foot sea bass around here since I don't know when. Thanks, Ben, and thanks, too, for those Virginia fishing magazines. Greatly appreciated.

But all mail isn't from old-timers. I receive many letters from youngsters in their early teens. These are the letters that can be counted upon to put spice in my day. Steve Casola, Mike Quigley, Rich Lendino, and Frank Horan, all of Massapequa, give me many a chuckle as they describe their intense desire to outfish each other. Just nice boys, trying desperately to become good fishermen. And what, I ask you, would the future of our country be without such kids as these? God bless 'em.

I also receive a letter or two in a more serious vein. For instance, those I get from sixteen-year-old Bob Regan of Massapequa Park. Bob wants to become a sportfishing

writer. From what I can tell of his writing ability, he's got it made. Good luck to you, Bob, and if you ever desire a bit of help along the way, my offer still stands.

And so the letters arrive on a daily basis: from policemen, lawyers and bricklayers, to party boat mates and fishing station owners; from every walk of life, with one thing in common: all are true dyed-in-the-wool fishermen who desire to put fish in that bucket. And to help others do the same.

Following are listed some of the readers who have been kind enough to write me their views on old-time fishing and related subjects. If your name does not appear as yet, be assured that it will in the next Old-Timers's Corner on letters.

My thanks to: Bob Barbera, New Rochelle, who sent me such a nice letter, I just had to get his name in here again; and to Tony Cisco, Roslyn Heights; Steve Casola, Massapequa; Steven Cannizzo, Brooklyn; John Dinkelmeyer, Levittown; Jim Dunn, Ronkonkoma; R. Dunn, Halesite; Josh Goldstein, East Hills; James Grima, Whitestone; Jim Hammer, Maspeth; Frank Horan, Massapequa; Scott Kalechstein, Brooklyn; John Kobeck, Yonkers; Michael Korin, Maspeth; Paul Lamberti, Staten Island; E. Laurenzano, Richmond Hill; Rich Lendino, Massapequa; Martin Lopez, Flushing.

And: J. Lorinz, Flushing; Al Lynch, Valley Stream; John Messick, Valley Stream; John Marsillo, Brooklyn; Joseph Mazimuto, Brooklyn, who was the mate on the ill-fated MJR III (issue #1, 1979) and sent quite a selection of photocopies of the newspaper stories of the tragedy, for which I am indeed grateful; Vincent McCarton, Little Neck; Sidney Ornstein, Peekskill; Mike Quigley, Massapequa; Lenard Reckling, Grand Island, Nebraska (who keeps the mailman hopping); Bob Regan, Massapequa Park; Bernard Schultz, Bellmore; Dolores Sollazzo, Shirley; S. Solonchak, Maspeth; Ben Thornblom, Oceanside; Frank Vincent, Bellerose; Edward Velardi, Jr., Jamaica; Samuel L. Weinstein, Queens Village, and A. R. Westerfeld, Dix Hills.

Many of these fellows (and ladies) have written me often and I'm sorry for the delay in acknowledging their letters in the column (I always reply immediately by mail), but this is due to space limitations. I'm sure they understand. Again, I thank you folks for taking time out to write me. Your efforts on behalf of fishermen everywhere is greatly appreciated.

Any time you fellows out there have a free moment and would like to discuss past fishing, or anything pertaining to it, or any comment at all, drop me a line at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946. Would enjoy hearing from you and we'll kick it around a bit.

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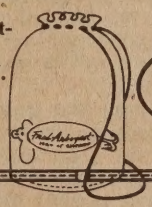

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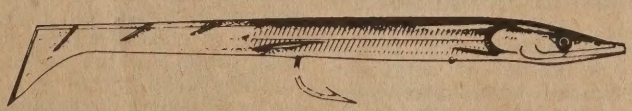

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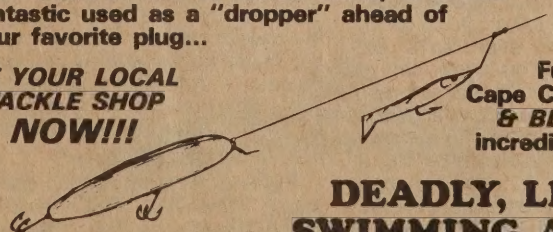

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NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

Are Whiting Being Overfished

One of the real success stories of the 200-Mile limit has been the resurgence of silver hake (whiting) and, more recently, red hake (ling). Indeed, the latter species has been the backbone of the spring and summer offshore bottom fishery in the New York Bight area this year. However, after a couple of years of excellent fall through spring whiting action, silver hake fishing failed to develop to any great extent this spring. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) assured us that there were plenty of whiting, and foreigners continued to receive their surplus quotas. Even I was inclined to write this spring off as an exception to the rule, until I read an editorial by Tim Sullivan in the October issue of "National Fisherman." It seems that whiting fishing in the usual summer grounds off Cape Cod and in the Gulf of Maine has declined drastically from last year—possibly the result of overfishing in 1978!

Rather than laying the blame at the feet of the foreign trawlers (as was legitimately the case earlier in this decade) this now seems to be a matter of domestic greed. Whiting prices were high last summer and many more boats were forced into the fishery as the result of closures in the cod and haddock fisheries. In order to make ever bigger catches of a relatively low value fish, many of the draggers kept decreasing mesh size until they got down to two inches or less. This resulted in the killing of untold numbers of tiny, almost valueless whiting, and may be the reason for poor catches this year.

As Sullivan points out, the whiting situation is typical of what can happen when only some fisheries are regulated and others left alone. Strict regulations are imposed on the cod, haddock and yellowtail flounder fisheries, and this has led to additional pressure on such supposedly under-utilized species such as whiting and dabs (a type of flounder). Without even such elementary restrictions as mesh size or minimum length on these normally neglected species, rapid overfishing is always a possibility. The New England Fishery Management Council is working on a plan for both hakes, but it has been slow developing as the priority has been on constant changes to the controversial groundfish plan.

It's not likely that the current depleted state of the whiting stocks will last for long. In the traditional "boom and bust" nature of the commercial fisheries, poor results this year will lead to a slackening of pressure next season and that will give the whiting a chance to renew its numbers. However, it would make a lot more sense to manage the fishery to provide for consistent yields; rather than permitting the "fast buck" operators to devastate a resource one year and let everyone suffer the consequence while the resource recovers. This situation also points out the necessity for multi-species management in order to prevent the shifting of effort from one fishery with controls to another without such restrictions.

As far as our local whiting fishery is concerned, I'm not sure if the problems New England fishermen are facing this summer are directly related to the relative scarcity of whiting in the New York Bight area this spring. NMFS isn't sure where our whiting go in the summer, and that lack of information has made it difficult to properly manage the fishery under the present PMP. The people at NMFS were never able to answer my question as to whether the window areas provided to the foreign fleets were permitting them to harvest whiting and ling that would normally migrate into our area. One of the basic problems has been a lack of tagging information. NMFS officials contend that tagging of whiting is impractical due to the depths they are caught in. However, that contention only reflects their commercial orientation and lack of familiarity with the fisheries in the New York Bight. As every fisherman in this area knows, whiting come right into the surf during the winter and can be taken from shallow ocean waters in good shape for tagging at that time. Furthermore, it's the movements of those very fish that we're particularly interested in.

Hopefully, we'll once again get a good run of whiting this winter. Unless cod come back significantly, that's all the party boat fleets in western Long Island and northern New Jersey have to fish for during a six month period. In the meantime, we must be constantly on the alert to ensure that NMFS doesn't run all our fisheries into the ground while promoting "under-utilized" species!

Killer Crabs?

Fishing is a relatively dangerous sport; however, I've never given much thought to the "dangers" of crabbing. Yet, UPI reports that a Baltimore man recently died of complications resulting from a crab bite! The man was crabbing on the Eastern Shore when he was bitten on the right leg by a crab. An infection spread so fast that the leg had to be amputated two days later. After a brief recovery, liver and kidney malfunctions resulted from the infection and the crabber was finished off by a heart attack.

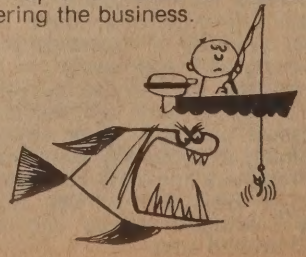
Source of the problem was a bacterium called marine vibrio, which is difficult to analyze and about which little is known. Marine vibrio is found in crabs and oysters, and some people have been known to contract minor infections by eating raw oysters. Since this particular bacterium was discovered only in the last decade, there isn't too much information about it. However, the Center for Disease Control has recorded thirty-nine cases in which humans have been infected by vibrio. Twelve persons died—though most had prior liver ailments.

Spanish Trawler Nabbed for Falsifying Records

The Coast Guard Cutter USS Bibb seized the Spanish trawler Cudillero off Cape May on September 14, charging the captain with falsification of catch records. The ship was escorted back to Port Newark and will await court proceedings. The captain was apparently trying to exceed his quota of valuable squid by recording less than was in the hold. Our observers have frequently noted that foreign captains would under-estimate their hauls on a regular basis—a practice that can result in a large surplus below decks after awhile.

Expensive Eels

The New Jersey Legislature has sent a bill to the Governor that will provide for a $100 license for anyone catching over twenty-five eels per day. Out-of-staters would have to pay a license fee equivalent to that charged Jerseyites in the resident's particular state. The reason for this is the sudden upsurge in eel prices resulting from a rapidly developing export market. Live eels delivered to Europe are worth big money and many pros now work their pots all along the coast in order to keep up with the demand. This has led to the imposition of out-of-state license fees in some states of as high as $1,000, but still hasn't slowed down the rapid increase of fishermen entering the business.

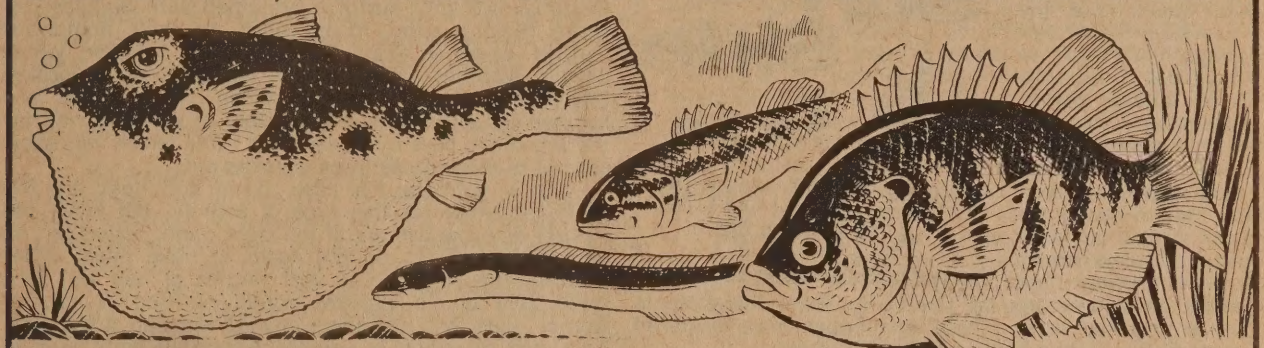


FISHING NEWSBITS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

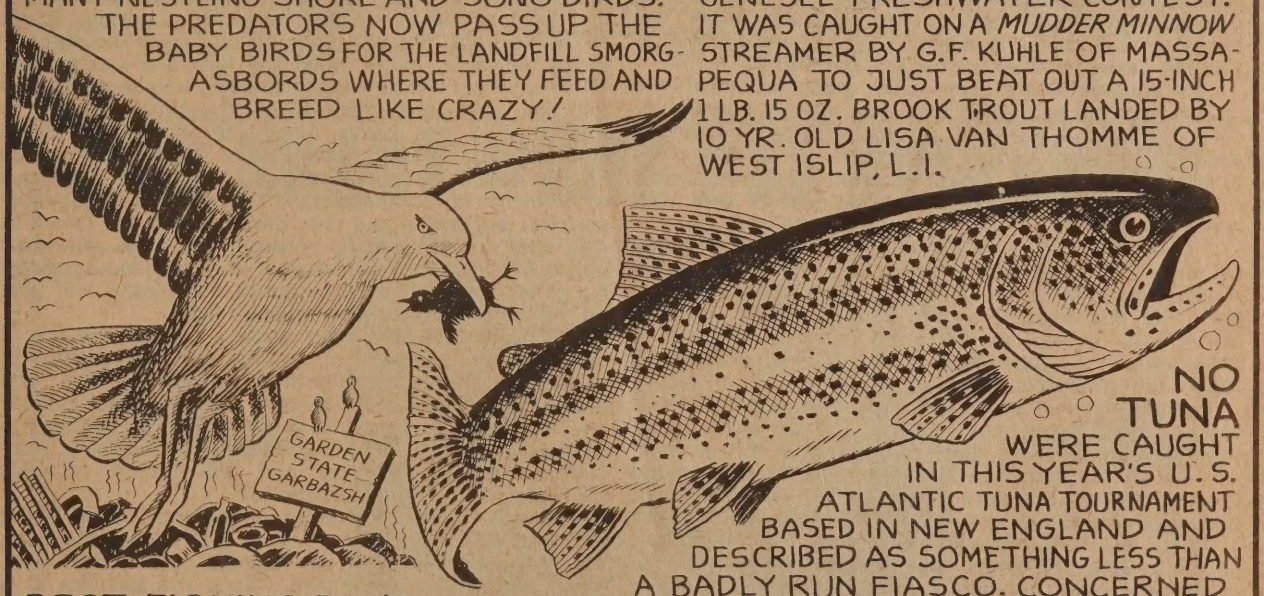
1ST ANNUAL L.I. OPEN BLOWFISH TOURNAMENT WAS HELD LAST AUGUST 5 ABOARD THE CAPTREE PARTY BOAT CAPT. LEO. 47 OAKDALE-BOHEMIA AREA ICHTHYOLOGISTS HEADED BY RESEARCHER JOE "HOGI" ADAMEC BOATED 51 FLUKE, MANY SEA ROBINS, BUT NOT ONE SINGLE BLOWFISH! THE PUFFERS, ONCE PLENTIFUL, HAVE DISAPPEARED.

NEW JERSEY BASS, SUNNIES, EELS AND OTHER FRESHWATER BOTTOM FISH HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSAFE TO EAT IF CAUGHT IN CREEKS & STREAMS FROM N.J. TURNPIKE WEST TO THE DELAWARE RIVER. THE WATERS MAY BE TAINTED BY RUNOFF OF PESTICIDE *CHLORDANE* USED AS LAWN AND GARDEN FERTILIZER.



ARCTIC HERRING GULLS, RARELY SEEN BEFORE 1950, BUT NOW ATTRACTED BY NEW JERSEY GARBAGE DUMPS, HAVE DECIMATED MANY NESTLING SHORE AND SONG BIRDS. THE PREDATORS NOW PASS UP THE BABY BIRDS FOR THE LANDFILL SMORGASBORDS WHERE THEY FEED AND BREED LIKE CRAZY!

A 2 LB. L.I. RAINBOW TROUT FROM THE CONNETQUOT RIVER WON 3RD PLACE IN THE STATEWIDE GENESEE FRESHWATER CONTEST. IT WAS CAUGHT ON A *MUDDER MINNOW* STREAMER BY G.F. KUHLE OF MASSAPEQUA TO JUST BEAT OUT A 15-INCH 1 LB. 15 OZ. BROOK TROUT LANDED BY 10 YR. OLD LISA VAN THOMME OF WEST ISLIP, L.I.



NO TUNA WERE CAUGHT IN THIS YEAR'S U.S. ATLANTIC TUNA TOURNAMENT BASED IN NEW ENGLAND AND DESCRIBED AS SOMETHING LESS THAN A BADLY RUN FIASCO. CONCERNED MEMBER CLUBS HOPE TO RESTORE THIS CLASSIC TO ITS FORMER GLORY AND PERHAPS BRING IT BACK TO CIVILIZATION-LIKE MONTAUK.

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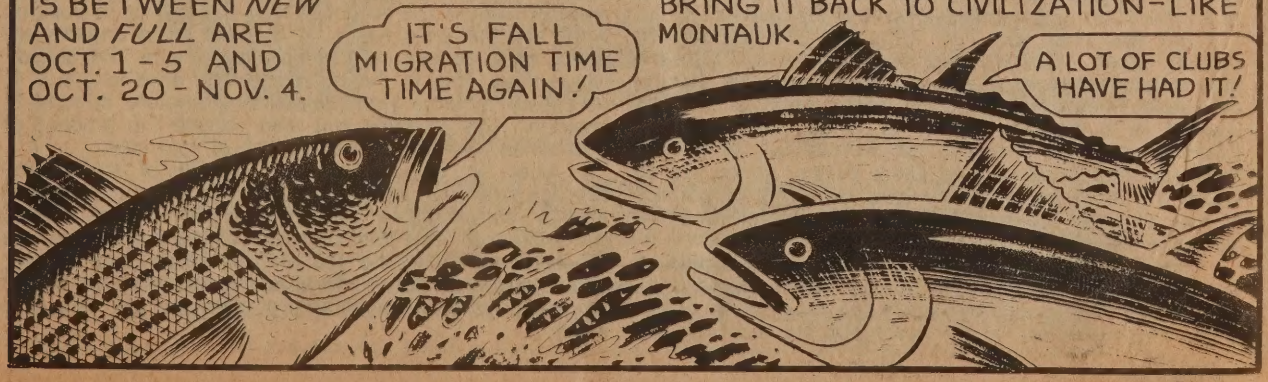

Surf Side with John Fritz

SOUTH SIDE CIRCUS

The ride to Montauk should be a trip filled with either excited chatter recalling successful past experiences, or intense discussion concerning this outing's expectations. This was not the case during a pleasant drive on that sunny day last October. True, the trip was for the purpose of participating in some of the fine surf fishing to be had at this time, but all our attention on that afternoon was riveted to the car radio. Any comments made were in response to the latest words issuing forth over the air waves. Shouts of joy, or expressions of derision—part of the dialogue associated with normal chatter of surf men discussing their sport—were directed instead at a baseball game. Not just any ball game, but the Yankee-Red Sox playoff. Gloom, so thick that it belonged in a funeral parlor, permeated the car. The Yankees were losing. Since it was mid-afternoon and our plans called for our arrival at Montauk a few hours before sunset, Vito and I decided to stop at The Long Island Fisherman's office and say hello. There our hopes were restored when Bucky Dent's home run tied the score.

Back on the road once more, we quickly decided—during a commercial break, to check out the waterfront at the Transformers before we hit Montauk. As we eased the buggy to a halt at the end of Dolphin Drive, it was almost with dismay that we saw the birds circling frantically over breaking fish close upon the beach. We had a difficult choice to make—listen to the outcome of the ball game, or leave the car and get into the fish.

In a game where every pitch meant so much, the loud hiss of air as we let down was cause for irritation. As we rolled onto the sand, we realized that we had only seen the western end of the commotion taking place along the beach. For several hundred yards, masses of birds, fish, and fishermen were all part of one wild scene. Yankee fan or not, this could not be ignored.

Even with the car radio's volume turned all the way up, the crashing surf drowned out any news of the game if you were more than thirty feet from the buggy. So that Vito and I could satisfy both cravings, we took turns. One listened to the game relaying each bit of news while the other made a cast, hooked a blue and fought him to the beach.

If that trip had ended with the setting of the sun, it would have been a great success; but we still had all night and the following dawn to improve on this event.

As the fall migration of game fish passes along the south shore of Long Island, scenes similar to the one described are regular occurrences. For this reason, it is standard operating procedure for my fishing companions and I to stop and check out the beachfront in a few areas before we pull into Kronuch's Tackle Store and get the latest happenings from Johnny. The few minutes delay has often paid off in exciting dividends when blitz type fishing on sandy beaches can be found for the price of a little effort and a small amount of lost time.

For the most part, our trips are planned to fish certain areas "up front" which coincide with the appropriate winds or tides, not specifically for fishing the sandy beaches. Although these beaches can be worked in a manner similar to Gilgo, Democrat, or Westhampton, we prefer to concentrate our efforts on the area from Shagwong to Ditch Plains. When we do check the sand beaches, we look for signs of surface activity close to the surf which is a bonus for anything caught amongst the rocks.

Since this area in question is rather extensive, a beach buggy is a great asset, but not entirely necessary. This shore line is spotted every so often with public roads which dead-end at the beach. On our trip East, we pick out a few of the shorter access roads for a quick look with binoculars up and down the waterfront. Our first checkpoint is in the Town of Wainscott; the last Ditch Plains—with the number of stops in-between dictated by the amount of time we want to spend.

For those of you equipped with buggies, it is possible to run this entire beach. Lately, though, I've heard faint rumblings that East Hampton Town is entertaining ideas to prohibit this practice by outsiders. Normally, we do not make the beach run on our way to Montauk unless, of course, activity can be discerned. We reserve this practice for our trip home, depending on how successful our night's fishing was and how tired we are.

If the fish are hitting the beach, but running in a westerly direction, surfmen equipped with buggies can chase them a good many miles on their homeward journey. Every so often, the crowds will increase, which usually signifies that a public access area is located behind the dune line. Fishermen restricted to the hardtop can either pick a likely spot in which to wait for the schools to pass by or devise a route which will allow several of these areas to be checked out.

As is normally the case, dawn and dusk are the preferred times for this type of activity, but when the schools of game fish are of the right mind, action can be had all day. Tides do not seem to have much effect whereas the presence of vast hordes of bait will turn these fish on to provide wildly exciting action for women, kids, and just about anyone who can cast a lure. This kind of action is usually associated with bluefish but similar, though less frequent, fishing can take place with weaks and striped bass. When the latter species are involved, the fishing is often short-lived for they are a prime target of our friends—the haul seiner and gill netter, who will drop their nets right at your feet.

Because this is, for the most part, top-water action in the daylight, tins and popping plugs are the standby lures. However, many times any lure that can be cast into the school will be readily attacked. Occasionally, the fish are lying some distance off the beach; then it is necessary to use heavy lures and big sticks. Plugs similar to the three ounce Polaris or the four ounce Striper Swiper are often chosen. For those instances when extremely long casts are required, knowledgeable surfmen will switch to a plug developed on the Island of Nantucket for this specific purpose—the three-and-a-half ounce Rabbit. If tins are needed, the three-and-a-quarter ounce Hopkins or the three ounce Kastmaster will best do the job of reaching those distant fish.

If bluefish are the major species present, the use of single hooks in place of trebles will aid greatly in unhooking these hard-fighting gamesters. This will enable you to get your lure back into the water quickly and also reduce any harm to the fish if you intend to release your catch. Wire leaders are a must and a snap fastened to the terminal end will permit a quick disconnect if the plug is swallowed.

Buggy fishermen chasing rampaging schools along the open beach are party to a unique brand of fishing not possible on most of the Island's other waterfronts. When the schools are moving along the surf line at a brisk pace, there is only time to make a few casts and pull one or two fish before the school passes down the beach. Then it's back to the buggy for the brief ride to a point in front of the school so that you can be in position when the fish pass again. A mistake some anglers are guilty of is to stop the vehicle even with the school. Most often, this is the most crowded area where it is necessary to force your way among anglers already in position. This practice will also reduce the amount of time when the fish will be in reach of your cast.

After an angler has had his fill of taking the average sized fish populating a school, he might want to try for something a little bit better. Under normal circumstances, the fish causing all the commotion are the smaller fish in the school. The larger and smarter fish often lie on the outskirts letting the younger set do the work while they leisurely pick up the bits and pieces.

As the school passes, cast to the outside edge, for on many occasions the larger fish will lie off in the deeper water. There is a danger here of having your line lying across the melee between. If bluefish are involved, a reckless blue in the frenzy of chasing bait could very easily touch your taut line with his sharp teeth. When this happens, you'll be out a couple bucks for the lure—not to mention the amount of line lost, and time.

After the school has passed, don't be in such a hurry to catch up with the main body. Often larger fish will follow behind picking on the leftovers. If bluefish are the predominant species present, striped bass—rather than compete with the more aggressive blues—will often follow in the wake of the school.

In this type of fishing, a buggy equipped with a large cooler mounted on the exterior of the vehicle is an advantage. Live fish covered with sand and slime can be unceremoniously tossed into the box, thereby protecting the interior of the buggy. If this fishbox has rod holders built into the frame, so much the better, for the rods can be readily accessible after the short move down the beach.

On certain days the fish will frolic on the surface for varying periods of time only to seemingly disappear. In many instances, it is best to sit tight for the school can re-appear in practically the same location. Specific areas are more inclined towards this custom than others: A point of land with a sluiceway nearby is the configuration of one such location I can recall. Not a major landmark along the shore line, just a minor landscaping job done by Mother Nature: here one day, and gone the next.

This south side action normally begins while the weather is still pleasant; therefore, expensive waterproof clothing is not mandatory. Shorts or a bathing suit is the dress for a great many anglers who thrill to this exhilarating sport; who, at other times and other places, will be at a loss to compete with the pros.

FLOUNDER CHUMMING

(Continued from page 16.)

has proven itself effective when all else fails, or used by itself. I've caught many flounders whose bellies have been loaded with corn. Just what makes corn so attractive to flounder is not really known—just that it works. The only precaution that need be taken is that it should be scattered up-current so it falls directly astern or alongside the boat. It is particularly effective in slow currents and especially when you do not want to attract crabs to your boat. Corn is now sold by bait dealers in a dried form. However, any good old cheap "no-brand" can of corn is just as effective and cheaper to boot. Also note a new technique where a kernel or two is placed on a hook together with other bait. Early reports are quite encouraging, attesting to the effectiveness of corn.

Rice/Sand—I'm treating concurrently. These materials are used by some "old-timers" who claim their effectiveness. I've tried with uncertain results. For one matter, I've never found rice in flounder I've caught. It appears that these materials appeal to the flounder's natural curiosity for examining stirred-up conditions.

Others—you name it and some fishermen have tried it; e.g., cat food, sardines, etc. I'm sure you'll get some who swear by their own concoction and I'm sure some old salt has his never-miss Scandanavian witch's brew. However, not being privy to same, I'd have to say that I'll continue to use the old standard stuff until someone can prove to me otherwise.

In the final analysis, I'd have to say that chumming works despite the costs involved. I've noted some techniques that can save you dollars, especially if you can't afford chum but still want to enhance your catch. The best I can say is that you'll have to try these methods by yourself and draw your own conclusions and choose whatever works best for you. In any event, good luck and happy fishing.

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FLOUNDER CHUMMING

by John V. Konior

Another flounder season is upon us and from recent reports, it looks quite promising. However, have you bothered to take notice of the reports? "Heavy chumming!" That's an interesting commentary and has several implications. Years ago, fishermen chummed, but chumming was an art to primarily bring the big ones around. Today, chumming has practically become a necessity to provide a decent catch. Moreoever, chumming is also becoming quite expensive, so it behooves the fisherman to know when, how and what to use.

Chumming can be broadly categorized by technique; the use of chum, or use of natural bottom and further categorized by types of chum and methods of presentation.

NATURAL BOTTOM

This term is somewhat ambiguous; but put simply is any method by which you are able to stir up the bottom under your boat. Flounder are naturally curious creatures and have a strong affinity for investigating bottom turbulence. In reality, a bottom that is stirred up frees minute particles of food, including worms, etc., which flounder feed upon. The classic example of this situation is found when clammers are raking up the bottom for shellfish. The sharp flounder fisherman anchors down-current from the clammer and is invariably quite successful. The technique of stirring up the bottom is the mainstay of the open boats, where it is impractical to chum the entire boat due to costs of chum. The tool used is a simple pole, long enough to reach bottom. The mates simply go along the rails pounding the pole into the bottom and stirring it up. Ever notice how often you almost always get a hit after the mate has just finished in your locale? Another frequently used technique is employing a weight. The weight could be a spare anchor, an old sash weight, or a tin can filled with lead. Some of these flounder pounders can be quite sophisticated, as evidenced by the article in The Fisherman "Ultimate Flounder Pounder," March 15, 1979 issue. Regardless of what is used, the effect is the same: stir up the bottom. When I was confined to fishing from rowboats, I employed a technique of dragging the mushroom anchor back and forth across the area I was going to fish. It worked just fine. This technique can still be employed with larger anchors, providing you have room to maneuver.

So what is the upshot of all this discussion? Actually, two points of significance. First, stirring up the bottom is effective. Second, it's easy to do and even more importantly, it's cheap (what better cost than no cost at all?). I've also found another advantage with this method. Natural chums sometimes have the drawback of attracting creatures other than flounder—namely crabs. Stirring up the bottom, for whatever reason, in my experience is not as prone to do this.

Several final points. You should stir up the bottom often, at least every fifteen minutes, or as necessary. You may get somewhat arm-weary, but a few muscle aches are certainly worth the results obtained. If you're going to use weights for stirring up the bottom, make sure you bring along sufficient line to reach the bottom. Fifty feet is more than adequate for any fishing grounds in the area. If your bag is a pole, the same advice: it's got to be long enough to reach bottom in the area you plan to fish. I've seen some fishermen use telescopic poles or connecting lengths of poles. Obviously poles are awkward to carry around, but some swear by the results. I've also tried a trick when the boat is swinging around a bit. I tie a sash weight or mushroom anchor to the gunwale midway along the boat, with the weight just touching bottom. The natural swing of the boat keeps the weight in motion, and in effect, constantly stirs the bottom.

CHUMMING MATERIALS

Believe it or not, flounder can be attracted by a number of natural marine materials and other not so natural materials. Before we move on to these chums, a word on the use of chum pots. I'm sure we could start quite a heated discussion on the merits of using a chum pot versus simply scattering the chum over the fishing area. Proponents of chum pots claim that the idea of the chum pot is to get the fish to the boat, not to the overall area or to feed the fish, and that the chum pot accomplishes the former purpose. Frankly, it's really not an arguable point, since I've used both methods and have had results using both. In fact, I've even used both methods concurrently. There are, however, guidelines when to employ either. The use of a chum pot is advisable when currents are swift, otherwise thrown chum would drift far beyond the area you are fishing. I've seen this happen often, with the inevitable results that the boat located fifty to one hundred feet down-current of the boat doing the chumming is magically reaping the benefits.

One disadvantage of a chum pot is probably known to all, and that is the propensity for getting your line tangled with it. How many times did you think you got a big one, only to realize that you snagged the pot? Another disadvantage is that it benefits the fisherman on the side it is hung. Ways of getting around this problem are to carry two chum pots or hang a single pot at the bow or point furthest up-current. A final note. Chum should be changed regularly, at least once every half hour since the "flavor" leaches away. In any case, the pot should be bounced frequently to release particles and juices.

Mussels—either blue or ribbed are a very effective chum. The mussels should be cracked, not smashed, to allow the flavor to leach away slowly. When replenishing the chum pot, dump the old mussels around the boat. As with any chumming when not using a chum pot, throw one or two mussels directly alongside to determine how much drift is involved. The chum should fall directly astern to be effective. I've been employing a trick when using mussels for chum. I freeze them. The juices remain a lot longer and are released as the mussels thaw, prolonging their effectiveness. The one disadvantage to using mussels (as is true with all natural chum) is their ability to attract crabs. Depending on the area you're fishing in, this drawback can far outweigh the advantages, eventually causing you to move your location to escape these pesty creatures. Mussel chum is effective all year, particularly early spring and fall.

Clams—either whole skimmer or bay (very expensive), clam bellies, or steamers (also very expensive). Skimmers and bellies are relatively cheap, but make an effective chum particularly during the mid-season and late fall. Technique is same as for mussels. Clam bellies, however, dissipate quickly requiring frequent re-chumming.

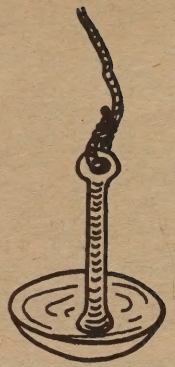
Corn—Long Island flounder are fast becoming known as the best corn fed fish in the world vying against beef for the same distinction. A relatively new technique, corn

(Continued on page 15.)

CHUMMING MATERIALS

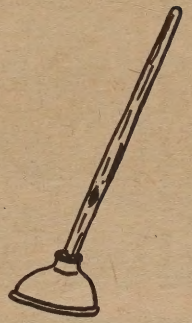
CHUM POT

COMES IN VARIOUS SIZES FROM A QUART UP TO 3 GALLONS OR MORE.



FLOUNDER POUNDER

ANY WEIGHT WILL DO TO STIR THE BOTTOM, EX: MUSHROOM ANCHOR.



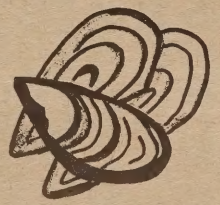
POLE

MUST BE LONG ENOUGH TO REACH BOTTOM. PLUMBERS SUNCTION HELPS.

ANY OF THESE CAN BE USED FOR CHUMMING

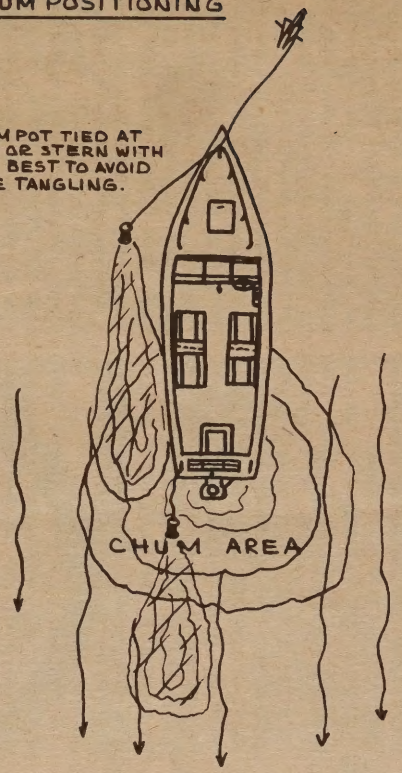
RIBBED MUSSELS

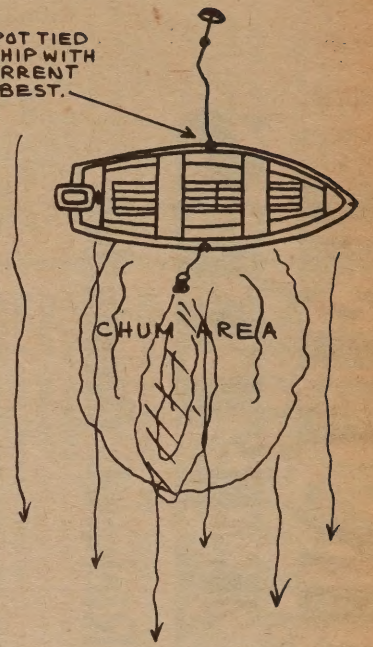
CLAM



BLUE MUSSELS

CHUM POSITIONING





WHEN SCATTERING CHUM AROUND THE BOAT IT SHOULD BE THROWN UP-CURRENT ALLOWING IT TO SETTLE DIRECTLY ASTERN OF THE BOAT. CURRENT SPEED AND WATER DEPTH WILL DETERMINE HOW FAR UP CURRENT THE CHUM SHOULD BE TOSSED. IN FAST MOVING CURRENTS USE OF A CHUM POT, A POLE, OR A "FLOUNDER POUNDER" IS ADVISABLE. OTHERWISE YOU MAY END UP CHUMMING FOR SOMEONE ELSE WHO IS CONSIDERABLY DOWN CURRENT FROM YOUR LOCATION.

THE ABOVE ANCHOR POSITION IS PREFERABLE SINCE SWING IS VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED AND PROVIDES MOST FISHING AREA, PARTICULARLY ON ROW BOATS. THE CHUM POT CAN BE LOWERED FROM THE OAR LOCK, WITH THE UP-CURRENT SIDE BEST. WHEN SCATTERING CHUM THE SAME RULES APPLY, HOWEVER THE AREA IS ENLARGED CONSIDERABLY. SWING IS NOT ALWAYS UNDERSIRABLE AND CAN WORK TO YOUR ADVANTAGE AT TIMES.

WINTER FLATTIES

by Richard Giessuebel

With the coming of winter, we must close another chapter of our lives and give up fishing for our most favorite species until they return again in the spring. For the most part, that leaves us with several months to either clean our gear, to head south, or to get out there and brave the cold. Should you choose the latter, then you'll undoubtedly attempt to catch the winter flounder. Beginning in early November, these fine tasting little critters begin to show up in our inland waterways. From that point on, you can catch them usually right on up until Christmas, or until the really cold weather starts to set in. In this article, we'll discuss how you can effectively increase your fishing season and corral a few of these little culinary delights.

Once the run has begun in the winter, you better get in on the action for, unlike spring flounder fishing, you never know when the run'll be over. These winter flounder will often bite only on sunny days after they've taken up residence in the waterway and winter fishing is, therefore, either feast or famine. However, there are several things that you can do to help increase your ability to take these fish. The first thing should be for you to be very familiar with the water that you're fishing. You should know where the channels or deep-water pools are located, because these are the places where the flatties are most likely to take up residence. Also, in these places, at times of low tides, there will be enough water for these fish to survive. The fish will, therefore, be in these places whenever you want to wet a line.

In order to become familiar, you should make it a point to visit where you will be fishing at a time of very low tide. These low tides will come when we either have a full or new moon situation. On a day during this particular phase of the moon, get out to where you intend to fish. Look for where there's plenty of water. You'll be surprised to find just how much of the water in your favorite place actually is part of a tide which goes out and leaves the bottom high and dry. These high and dry places aren't necessarily good flounder spots. For one, the fish can't dig into the mud here because they know that once the tide goes out, they'll be killed; therefore, they don't take up residence in places like this.

If you don't think this is an important consideration, then just try this once when it becomes flounder season; you watch those around you fishing where there's no water at low tide and compare their catch to yours where you've been fishing out in the channel. That will put an end to your skepticism. You'll be amazed at the number of people who look like they know what they're doing, but who fish where the fish aren't.

If you fish on a dock where boats are tied up, you won't have to contend with the above-mentioned problem. Probably the tide won't have any effect on your fishing other than the one of how warm or cold it's making the water. This, then, is the second thing we'll consider.

Since it's the winter, then, the inland temperatures will be much lower than the temperatures of the ocean. Therefore, the runoff of rivers will be much colder than the actual temperature of the ocean. So, if you have a rising tide, the water will be coming in from the ocean and therefore warmer than the water on an outgoing tide that will be primarily water from the colder inland sources. Putting this all together, you come up with a situation that the winter flatties will be more readily available on an incoming tide.

Now, just consider the first two points here and you'll be able to score with more fish than if you just traveled to your favorite flounder spot any time and just fished anywhere once you've arrived. Another thing to give consideration to is the fact that these winter fish really like the sun. Even on real cold days, if you catch an incoming tide and a bright sunlit one, you will stand a far better chance of being in on a bonanza and not a famine.

Other things that you can do to further ensure your success is to chum if at all possible; disturb the bottom and fish with multi-hook rigs. As for chumming, you may use a chum pot which is nothing more than a can which will hold amounts of clams or dog food, go to the bottom, and slowly send forth a stream of edible materials that the flounder will be able to get into and follow to a point where your bait will be waiting. If you fish directly beneath a dock, all you have to do is to put the chum pot into the water somewhere above where you're fishing. Then the tide will be able to carry the aroma of the chum directly over your bait and when the little flounder comes to investigate, he will have to swim right over your bait. Now hopefully at this point he will take your bait in.

Should you have to fish somewhere off of the dock, then you can chum by spreading materials out into the water; again, above where you are going to cast your baits, so that the chum will drift out over your baits. Whatever you do, don't throw all your chum out at once. Even in a chum pot, the material disperses rapidly and if you don't check the pot often, you'll have an empty pot for the major part of the time you'll be fishing. Therefore, check your pot often and take care to use a little chum often. This is also true if you're dispensing it from the shore. Throw enough out to start and then ever decrease the amount you throw out. In this manner, you'll not only attract fish, but you'll also hold them in your slick.

A point to consider here is that these fish don't always strike. That is, they will often just suck the bait in and lie there with it in their mouths or stomachs. So, from time to time you should check your bait by simply lifting your pole up and seeing if you have any companions holding on to it. If you do, hook and reel in. Often fish will hit the slick and all that it will take to get a hit will be the motion of that bait; therefore, occasionally move that bait around. You'll be surprised at how this will cause you to receive some hits, especially when you weren't receiving any before.

Another thing that you can do to get fish into your area is to shake up the bottom wherever possible. This can be accomplished with a long rake, a window weight sash, or even a long stick that will reach the bottom and that you'll be able to scratch away at the bottom some-

where above your bait. Through doing this, you will undoubtedly send a slick of bottom-dwelling creatures forth in hopes of attracting the flounder.

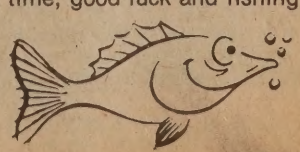
Keep in mind that while you are doing all this, that once the tide changes, you'll be fishing a whole new ball game. For first of all, the water might get cold. This will surely send the flounder out looking for mud that they will be able to get under. Also, at a slack tide, your chum won't be going anywhere. Therefore, if you don't change the position of your baits, then after the tide starts to move again, the chum will go out in a direction that will bring the flounder to the chum from a direction that they will be swimming right on up to the chum and never once where they will be able to see your bait. So, if you're going to wait for the tide to change, then by all means, change the position of your bait.

Finally, let's discuss multi-hooks. If you are going to fish, then give yourself a chance to catch a few. If you fish with more than one hook, you greatly increase your potential to catch fish. Therefore, use rigs that have several hooks on them. One such rig is easily made with trout hooks. Get some size #8 snelled trout hooks. Then connect these hooks in the middle of the snell. You can put three hooks out and this is an effective way to fish. You can also put out three or two Chestertown hooks size #8 in a very similar manner. Then, either attach a weight somewhere above the hooks to your line, or use a fish finding rig. This is made as follows: run a weight up your line. Do not attach this weight to your line, but rather allow it to slide freely. Then, impede its motion with either a split shot or a swivel. Then, attach your hook combination to this weight set-up and you're in business.

As for the bait, it really doesn't matter. What does matter, though, is that you bring along several baits. Fish a different bait on each hook. Eventually, you will find that either the fish have a particular preference this day, in which case you will fish nothing but this preference, or that they will take anything you can give 'em. The anything includes such things as earthworms, seaworms (both blood and sand), clams, mussels, or just about anything which can be cut up small and placed on a hook. Often whole kernel corn is very effective. And when I fish whole kernel corn, I like to chum with it, too. However, you hear so much about the corn killing the flounder, that even though I haven't seen it, I don't take any chances. I cut up the whole kernel corn that I'm going to chum with.

Now, where can you go flounder fishing? Well, the answer is just about anywhere where there's a good muddy bottom. Fish will be caught from the tip of Staten Island all the way out to Rockaway Beach. What you've got to do is to fish a good stretch of river where there's a muddy bottom and do some scouting. Ask your local bait shops if anyone fishes here, or it it has ever been productive in the past. If the answer is yes; then you should give it a shot.

Get your information square as to the tides; select a nice sunny day, and get out there. Rig up several light spinning poles with combination hooks, bait up, and cast out to the channels. Chum or scratch up the bottom and it shouldn't be long until you'll either be into fish or looking for a new place to go. My favorite place is in Great Kills Harbor where I'll often employ all of these tactics from a boat. However, if you follow the daily newspapers and read The Fisherman religiously, you will slowly, but surely, find an awful lot of places to fish. So, until next time, good luck and fishing.



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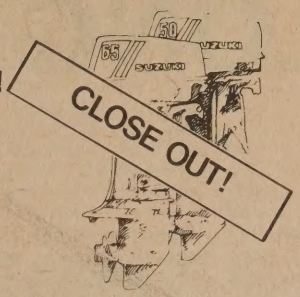

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WESTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND

by Ted Keatley

There is a French political axiom which says that the more things change, the more they remain the same. This same philosophy can be applied to fishing in most instances. However, there are exceptions, and one was the most productive tide during the past season.

I have often heard "fishermen" pontificate that the best time for striped bass success is from two hours before high slack tide until two hours down. I immediately write anyone off as ignorant of striped bass fishing who expounds this nonsense.

When is the best time to take striped bass? When they are hitting, obviously. So far as I am concerned, high slack is tied with low water for last place. Note that I am speaking about dead water with no current moving. I have a strong liking for the last of the falling tide and the beginning of the make when fishing blues, bass and weakfish. Obviously, this does not apply to shoals and flats where the fish would need legs to get around at the bottom of the tide. These areas would be productive only near high tide, although I still take a dim view of slack water.

A good example of a high tide area would be the cove between Lobsterman's Island and Pine Island on the Sound side of Rye's Milton Point. When the tide is less than half, it is pretty difficult to get beyond the rocks at the mouth, which local fishermen call Hidden Reef. However, when the tide is well up, the whole area is quite productive for worm trollers and pluggers, particularly at the beginning of the falling tide.

That was a long, involved way to get to the point which I started to make in the second paragraph.

Although I tended to favor the dropping tide for bluefishing in past years, the outgoing water has been a dismal failure for me this season. I even noticed the same thing when weakfish were heavy at Buoy 15 on the Long Island side during the early summer. It finally got to the point where I was trying to schedule my fishing time to coincide with the rising tide. Since midday bluefishing is not too productive as a rule, this presented problems every other week.

The situation was aggravated by the fact that bluefish weren't too plentiful in western Long Island Sound during most of the summer. Ten years ago when live-lining bunkers first became popular, I was concentrating on striped bass and attempting to hide from the blues. However, even if I didn't find the bass, I usually wound up with six or eight blues as a consolation prize. This year, that number of large fish represented a good day of bluefishing.

In several recent columns, I emphasized that fishing live bunkers sometimes was the only way to get action. Last Labor Day weekend reaffirmed this. There was a body of medium-sized blues at the western side of Stamford Harbor just inside the breakwater. Burt Carpenter and I had excellent action with live bunkers (only on the making tide, incidentally). Boats around us casting lures and fishing cut bait did little. The only other fisherman who seemed to be having action was a young boy, who also was fishing live bunkers. Unfortunately, since the fish were small (three to six pounds), they were hard to hook on live bunkers and only about one strike in four put a fish in the box. The following week, the alligator blues in the teens had taken over and things were much different.

Blues should be with us through October and even into November. As a rule, late season action is in deeper water, not in the harbors. Some of the better fall areas in western Long Island Sound include the K buoy and 42 buoys off Captain's Island at Greenwich, 32A and Sound Reef outside of Stamford and 24C off Norwalk. The place where blues seem to stage their grand finale before heading south is in the area from 11B to 13 off the Eaton's Neck Lighthouse.

Live bunkers are unlikely to be available toward the end of the season and even if they were, they are hard to fish in deep water. Thus, cut bait on the bottom or wire line trolling are the techniques most likely to be used. Jigging blues has become quite popular. However, the fall fish are scattered and there would be a lot of cranking per fish. I wouldn't particularly recommend it unless you are interested in developing your arm and shoulder muscles. One nice thing about end-of-the-year blues is that most are big fish.

Before October is out, we should begin to see runs of school bass moving westward toward their wintering grounds in the Hudson River. Sometimes the fish move through rather fast, but they often remain in an area for a week or two.

Among the spots where they may linger are the Stamford Cows and Todd's Point at Greenwich. On the Long Island side, the best possibilities are the inner rips at Eaton's, inside buoy 15 at Lloyds and Prospect Point at the west side of Hempstead Harbor. Prospect Point provided several weeks of fantastic fishing last year.

Usual techniques are umbrellas trolled on wire or, if the fish are on top, casting lures.

Flounder also should provide excellent fishing during October. Last spring was one of the best that I can recall and this fall should bring more of the same.

By mid-October, I expect to be looking for blackfish. However, because results have been poor for two years, I do not know what to expect. Blackfishing has been good from New Haven eastward, but western Long Island Sound results have left much to be desired in 1978 and 1979.

I guess that my approach to blackfishing may be a little unorthodox since I do not begin fishing for them until we are well into fall. Instead of working the boulders close to shore, I normally fish the offshore reefs at depths of twenty to sixty feet. Finally, rather than a #6 Virginia hook baited with a fiddler crab, I use a 6/0 Sproat and half a green crab.

The big hooks and large baits miss a lot of small fish, but I don't want them anyway.

I am a great believer in sharp hooks and a Sproat comes out of the box with a needle point. Of course, it must be checked frequently when used for blackfishing. The points dull or bend fairly readily if hung in rocks. However, they are easy to re-sharpen and cheap enough to throw away if the tip really is in bad shape.

Although a one or two ounce sinker may be adequate when fishing shallow inshore waters, plenty of lead is needed in the areas which I fish. I have seen days at 24C off Norwalk when it was impossible

to hold bottom in forty feet of water with a sixteen ounce sinker. Normally, though, four to eight ounces is adequate. I rig to permit easy changing of the sinker and use just enough lead to hold bottom without rolling around.

The bait and sinker should stay put and the line taut. Move the rod tip up and down if necessary to prevent the rocking of the boat from causing the bait to bounce. A sensitive finger against the line does wonders in feeling any movement down below. Big blacks will often pick up the bait and begin munching on it without any easily perceptible tugging on the line.

Another must in blackfishing: set the hook hard and never give a fish slack line. Begin the retrieve holding the rod over your head, if necessary. A black has a tough, rubbery mouth designed to crush barnacles, crabs and shellfish without discomfort and often, the hook point barely penetrates. If you give a blackfish slack, there usually is nothing on the other end but an empty hook when the line comes taut again.

Since I am not interested in catching bergalls or small blackfish, I consider green crabs to be the only acceptable bait. The exception is in early spring when clams or fiddlers may be more effective.

To use a green crab properly, cut it in half cleanly. Then insert the hook in a leg socket and bring it out a leg joint. Some people remove the claws and legs; but to me, this is a lot of work for no purpose.

Now that I have covered my version of how, I guess that the next step is where.

Actually, any rocky area is a prospect, but large reefs extending out into deep water produce most consistently.

Among the better deep-water spots in western Long Island Sound are Execution Rocks, Prospect Point, the deeper areas off the Hen and Chickens at Larchmont, the reefs around buoy 42 outside of Scotch Caps where the Mamaroneck and Milton Harbor channels meet; Parsonage Point just west of Playland; Matinecock Point at the east side of Hempstead Harbor; Lloyd's Neck on the Long Island side and Sound Reef off the Stamford Breakwater. My favorite late season spots are buoy 24C off Norwalk and 11B at the end of the Eaton's Neck Reef.

Positioning the boat is important. The old-timers say that blackfish feed on a dime and it is true that a few feet can be the difference between nothing and fast action. Normally, the best fishing can be found on the down-current side of a sharp dropoff. The top of a reef or the soft bottom a few feet from it are not likely to hold fish.

For years, I positioned my boat by bouncing a small anchor until I felt bottom that I liked. Now I rely on a depth recorder and this is faster and much easier.

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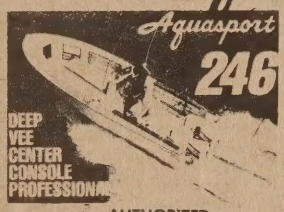

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However, even with the convenience of a depth recorder, you should have good triangulated bearings to bring you to the area where you want to fish. I use shore bearings to reach the approximate spot and rely upon the recorder only for the final positioning.

When I wrote this article, I quoted the French political axiom that the more things change, the more they remain the same, and applied it to fishing. I then cited an exception: the fact that, unlike prior seasons, I found the falling tide very unproductive this year. In the few days between writing the column and mailing it to Editor Tim Coleman, the blues ran the bunkers right up against the beach at Stamford's Cummings Park for three successive evenings ON THE FALLING TIDE. Guess that even if you pose as a fishing expert, you can't win them all!

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	7:09	7:32	7:50	8:13	7:45	8:05	8:31	8:59	10:40	11:10	10:23	10:51	6:57	7:23	10/4
FRI.	7:58	8:20	8:40	9:04	8:33	8:55	9:21	9:50	11:33	–	11:14	11:43	7:47	8:11	10/5
SAT.	8:44	9:09	9:29	9:53	9:22	9:45	10:10	10:41	12:02	12:21	–	12:05	8:36	9:00	10/6
SUN.	9:32	9:55	10:18	10:43	10:11	10:36	11:00	11:31	12:52	1:08	12:33	12:55	9:25	9:47	10/7
MON.	10:18	10:46	11:07	11:32	11:03	11:31	11:51	–	1:43	1:57	1:24	1:43	10:13	10:37	10/8
TUE.	11:08	11:37	11:57	–	11:56	–	12:23	12:41	2:35	2:48	2:15	2:34	11:04	11:28	10/9
WED.	–	12:01	12:26	12:52	12:25	12:51	1:19	1:37	3:33	3:45	3:08	3:29	11:56	–	10/10
THUR.	12:30	12:51	1:22	1:48	1:22	1:43	2:17	2:34	4:37	4:58	4:04	4:25	12:23	12:52	10/11

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

10/3	6:58	6:39
10/8	7:04	6:31
10/13	7:10	6:23
10/18	7:15	6:15
10/23	7:20	6:08
10/28	6:27	5:01

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
10/21	10/28	10/5	10/12

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	3:35	10:10	4:05	10:40
Fri.	4:20	11:05	4:55	11:30
Sat.	5:15	—	5:45	12:05
Sun.	6:15	12:30	6:45	1:05
Mon.	7:20	1:35	7:45	2:00
Tues.	8:15	2:35	8:45	3:00
Wed.	9:15	3:30	9:40	4:00
Thurs.	10:15	4:30	10:40	4:55

MONTAUK
★ BEST BET ★
BLUEFISH

Capt. Warren Hader of the charter boat **Devilfish** said that he made his last offshore trip of the year on Wednesday and found the 40 fathom grounds loaded with giant blue sharks. The party aboard consisted of the Captain's and owner of the charterboat fleet **Seafaris**, who cam all the way from Maderia, Portugal to fish with Capt. Hader to see how we catch sharks in the United States. The largest blue shark for the day weighed about 350 lbs. but all the sharks were released at the boat. On Thursday the visitors sampled the bluefishing at the Appletree Grounds off Block Island and took 91 giant blues on diamond jigs before their arms gave out.

Six-year-old Robby Tringali, Jr. gets an assist from his Dad in displaying the 10½ lb. blue he caught at Montauk. Photo courtesy of Star Island Yacht Club.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that it's never to late to catch a swordfish at Montauk. He said that last week Archie Jost and Alan of the private boat "Fancy Pants" sailed out of the sportfishing marina and took an 87 lb. broadbill swordfish in the Canyon. Henry added that a few boats tried tuna fishing off Block Island on Wednesday, but all they found were big bluefish. But Henry said that some fish were taken by Rhode Island boats on Friday, so there appears to still be some fish around. Inshore bass fishing is starting to show some signs of life and many of the charterboats have been getting a few nice bass mixed in with the bluefish taken around Great Eastern.

Capt. Gene Kelly of the charterboat **Sea Doll** made one of his last offshore trips on Wednesday and took 10 blue sharks, all over 150 lbs. Gene said that most of his others trips during the week were inshore and he fished off Block Island for blues. Using diamonds jigs in 90' of water, the catches have ranged from 100 to 125 bluefish a trip. Gene said that blues are all 10 lbs. and up.

Capt. Fritz Hubner of the charterboat **Mistress Too** reported that the bluefishing has been excellent north of Can 3 and at the Elbow, and there are few bass mixed in. On Saturday his charter had 4 striped bass and 70 bluefish. Fritz said that he still has some openings for afternoon charters this month for striped bass and blues.

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin Fleet** reported that the porgy fishing is excellent, with average catches of 50 to 75 fish per man and the better fishermen taking over 100. On Friday Louise Mason of New York City was high hook with 146 porgies. Capt. Rade said that the bluefishing at Cartwright is still fantastic both day and night and the fish are all animals.

Joe Brittman of Northport, hefts the pool winning 52 lb. cod that he landed recently aboard the "Viking Starship" at Coxes Ledge.

Capt. Buddy Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** said that this past week the porgy fishing continued to be super with catches going into the 100s for some fishermen. The Midway rips are producing king sized jumbos along with sea bass, cod, flounder and blackfish.

Captain John Demaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** had an unusual

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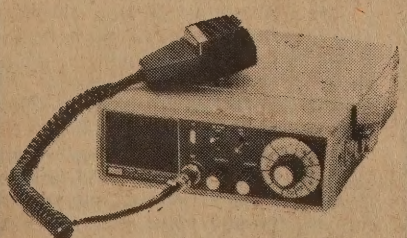

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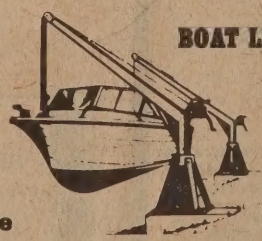

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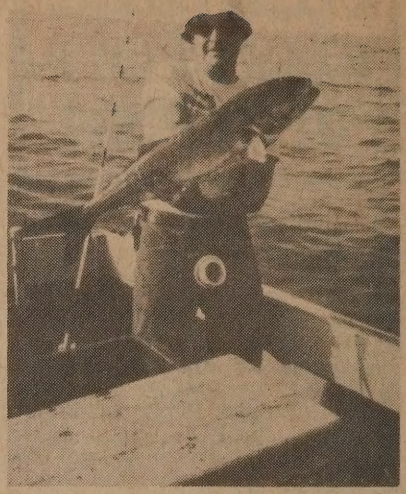

Professor Cella hefts a 20 lb. blue, one of 40 taken by himself and Dr. Carr on the charterboat "Vivienne."

fishing experience with his charter on Friday. Fishing around Great Eastern in the morning the party took three striped bass, a mess of giant humpback porgies and big sea bass and topped off the box with a mess of small bluefish. It was a good day by any standards, and they headed back to the dock. But along the way, John noticed birds working inside of can #3 and stopped to investigate. It turned out to be a huge school of bonito and weakfish that were leaving the Peconics on their fall migration. The fish were all feeding on a school of "white bait", and here's what happened. "I never saw anything like it," John said. "For some reason, the school of baitfish decided that it would try to hide under the hull of the Vivienne. Naturally, this gave us the greatest chum slick you could ever ask for. The tide had just begun to ebb, so the boat slowly drifted towards the Lighthouse, all the time with this huge school of baitfish under the boat. The weakfish were in a feeding frenzy all around us, and all we did was drop our lures in the water and swing them in. There were so many fish that they kept running into our lines as we were fighting others. You could've just reached down with a gaff and caught all you wanted." The blitz fishing finally ended about a half hour later, and when they got back to the dock the charter had more than 600 lbs. of bass, bluefish, porgies, bonito, and weakfish.

Charterboat **King Wayne** reports Saturday's charter for Ronnie Van-Dyne of Tinker Fishing Club had the biggest bluefish ever of the season. A 21 lber. took the pool plus they had 93 other monster blues. This included three, 20 lbers. This was at Cartwright on herring using 10 oz drails and chain on the bottom.

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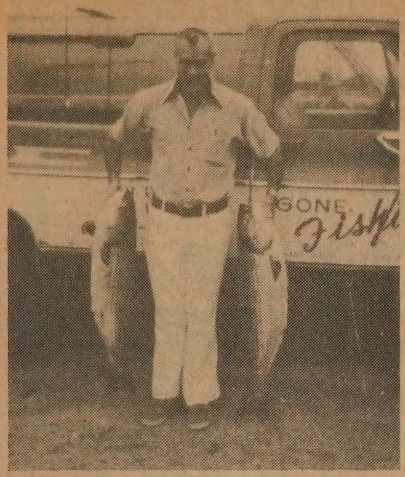

Tom Collins with a brace of stripers in the 20 lb. class. They were taken on live eels at Great Eastern on the boat Lady Claire. Photo courtesy of Gone Fishing Marina.

Saturday night's charter for Joe Wos put another 156 giant blues in the box, also fishing Cartwright. These fish were all 16-18 lbers and met their fate on butterfish.

Charter boat **Julie III** skipper Ron Grandinetti had Vinnie Holstrom of the NYCTA and party out and they had 750 lbs. of big Cartwright blues Saturday, fishing running 9-16 lbs., caught on herring and butterfish. Sunday's charter led by Gus Delgado caught over 400 porgies at Culloden Point and Rocky Point on clam and chum.

Captain Paul Forsberg's **Viking Fleet** says that except for being off for the weekend due to heavy weather, the codfishing at Coxes Ledge has been strong all week with 8-12 lb. class fish and also a lot of hangers. Even on the blustery, rainy weekend the **Starship** had 20 hangers on Satuday and 22 on Sunday. The night bluefishing at Cartwright remains fabulous. Thursday night a 24 lb. blue was swung aboard and though the fish was landed, it broke the heavy boat rod into two pieces. The porgy catches are still very good with fish bigger now and the porgy boat is working Block Island grounds now.

Captain Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios** had Jerry Kenney of the Daily News out Wednesday and Jerry had 4 bass in 2 hours. Joe Pellicone of Staten Island had 2 stripers Saturday plus a slew of blues fishing the Point. Weaks are also being bagged.

Capter Gary Kieffer of the charter boat **Barracuda** reports fantastic inshore fishing for blues and albies and that his arm-weary charters are begging to come in early. The boat is both trolling and diamond jigging under the Lighthouse.

Recent subscriber Tony Cortese of the Babylon Tuna Club hooked and landed a 505 lb. bluefin tuna on 9-16 in 160' of water, 120° southeast of Montauk aboard Pete Statsi's Sea Venture out of W. Islip. This was on 130 lb. test and the fight lasted one hour, ten minutes. It was hand-fed a mackerel-baited hook by Capt. Ted Monel of Montauk.

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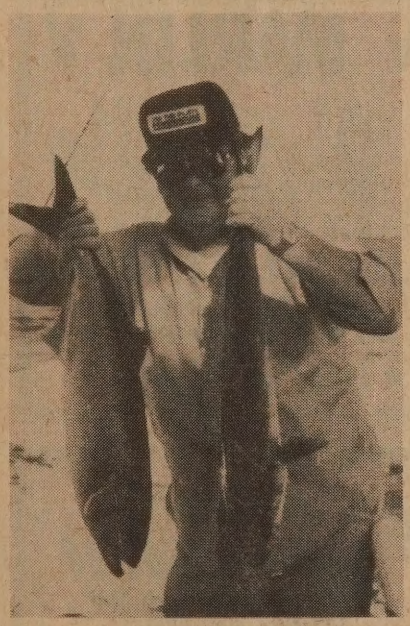

Frank Powell shows a couple of the blues he landed on a recent trip aboard the Montauk charterboat "Adios."

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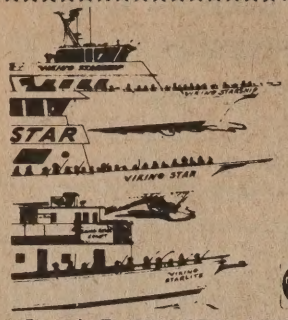

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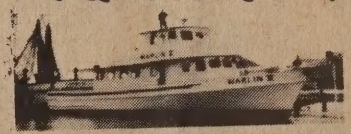

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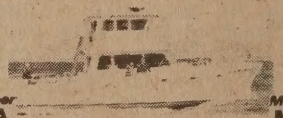

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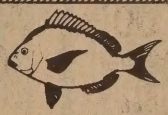
PORGIES!  PORGIES!

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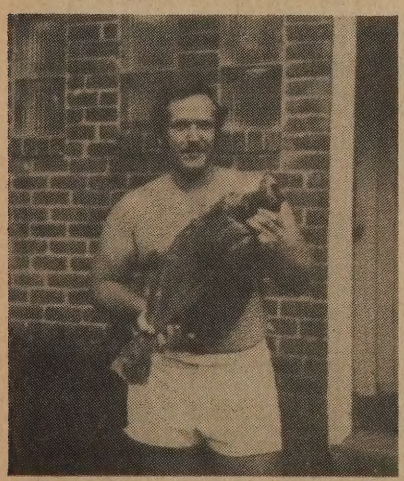
SHINNECOCK

Thom at **Speck's Bait & Tackle** said that Shinnecock Bay has been producing some small flounder and sea bass. Blackfish at the Inlet rocks and blues being trolled on umbrella rigs in the Inlet as well as just outside. He knew of good porgy action at Gardiner's and checked over some good blackfish scores made at Gardiner's, Lion Head Rock and the Brickyard. The Light at Sag Harbor has been producing flounders and small porgies for those using worms or clams. Thom also knew of some real fine flounder action going on across the bay at Petty's Bight. One angler had 80 flounder up to 2 lbs. at this location over the weekend. Snappers still around.

The Captain Clark Fleet reports excellent blackfishing this past week on wrecks and in Peconic Bay. Fish up to 8 lbs. are being caught in good numbers. On Wednesday, Ed Rosenberg of Riverhead and pal Willie, filled the bucket with 32 blacks including the pool winning 6½ lber. Catches will continue to climb as the temperature drops and should peak in mid-October. Fish are hitting green and fiddler crabs. Porgies still being caught in good numbers for those who want them. The **Captain Clark II** expects to make an ocean wreck trip this coming Sat., October 6 for sea bass and blacks, weather permitting.



A live snapper proved too tempting for this 7½ lb. doormat. Frank Wenz boated the fish in Shinnecock Inlet. Subscriber photo.

This 3 lb. 10 oz. triggerfish was landed by Anthony Bernagozzi while snapper fishing in the Shinnecock Canal. Photo courtesy of Speck's Bait and Tackle.

MORICHES BAY

E.M. Bait & Tackle said that the buoy 42-43 area has been producing am mixed bag of blowfish, porgies, flounder, sea bass and crabs. Also, anglers take some nice blackfish along the Inlet jetty on fiddlers and worms.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
MIXED BAG

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stiriz' Fishing Station** says there are still plenty of blueclaw crabs around along with eels, blowfish, porgies, kings and sea bass making up a pretty good mixed bag of fall fishing. A showing of flounder made itself known during the week between buoys 9 and 12, fish up to 3/4 lbs. on worms and mussels.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station tells of good snapper fishing. But there are also some weaks and king fish around on squid strips. A few flounder and fluke are also coming up, all action from 1-2 miles out of the Station.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station tells us that off their dock big snappers and some blueclaw crabs are keeping anglers happy.

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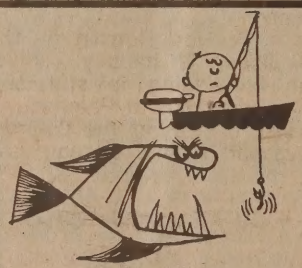

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BAY SHORE

Captain Neil of the **Casey Lee** says the flounder fishing is improving daily and catches are best in deep water in the State Channel. Fish are mostly the 1 lb. variety. On Fri., Sid Winnick of Bay Shore was high hook with 19 flounder taken on worm and clam bait.

Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells of very good blackfishing at Kismet Reef, fish 1-7 lbs. on fiddlers and green crab. Some porgies and sea bass mixed in with them hitting clam and squid. Lots of weaks on live snapper and small blacks at the Lighouse. Tom McCarthy socked it to a 9½ lb. weak on live snapper at the Lighthouse. A few big blues are in the bay and Carl weighed in a 14¾ lb. specimen during the week, falling mainly for live bunker or chunk bunker. Fluke are about over, but those that can still be coaxed to a hook are large and thick. Bergen Point has been producing some flounder from ½ to ¾ lbs. on sand worms. Outside, bonito, albies, tuna and blues are swimming off Patchogue in 80' to 120' of water. Crabs at the Bay Shore docks are still a very good item.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle reports lots of blacks at the inshore Kismet Reef on fiddlers and greenies, fish 2-5½ lbs. On Wednesday, Deer Park anglerette Lillian Passella bagged a 9 lb. 2 oz. weak on an artificial shrimp and squid strip in front of the lighthouse. Lots of blueclaw crabs in traps at the dock. Snappers now going up to 2 lbs. when they're around periodically at the dock. There are scatterings of fair sized flounder, no one place in particular. Rumors of some bass on small blackfish. Live eels scoring on blues at Cedar Beach overlook, Saturday night in particular.

The Solinas clan with a nice catch of fluke made aboard the family boat, Momma.

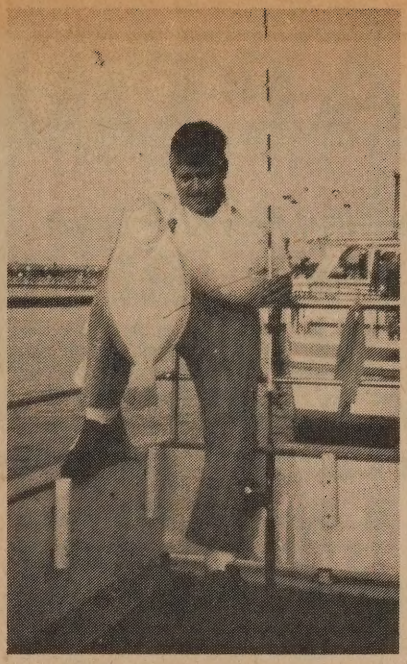
CAPTREE

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Joseph Fleet** reported that it looks like the fluke fishing is finished for the year so one of the boats will now be sailing for flounder and blackfish. But the bluefishing has to be the greatest we've had in years. On Friday night the boat fished the outer banks of Patchogue and 25 men took over 300 bluefish, 6 to 14 lbs. Lou Crapanzano and Al Franchi of Islip, had 49 blues between them. On Saturday the boat fished the Oregon Wreck and found the fishing so unreal it can't be exagerated. The captain said he didn't see a fish under 10 lbs. and it was real gorilla warfare. Fourty men took over 400 of these super giant blues and almost that many were broken off and lost.

The **Capt. Leo III** reported that on Sunday, employees of the NY Telephone Co. totaled over 350 sea bass, porgies and blackfish. High hook for the day was Roger Pelonis who had 30 fish in his bag. The fishing was done inside the bay.

Captain Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reports the day and night bluefishing has been super all week long, fishing both Patchogue's Outer Ledge and just east of the Oregon. "Super fishing," says Speedy. Fish at the Oregon were all 10-18 lbers. Lots of bonito mixed in on day trips, 20 per man if you concentrate on them. "A slaughter," says the captain. LIF Stu Miller sailed on Speedy's Thursday night trip with Captain Nick at the wheel. The boat fished off Patchogue and the action

Bob McGuire used a live snapper to take this 12 lb. 1 oz. tiderunner at the F.I. Lighthouse. The big weak was weighed in at The Store.



John Brommer displays the 5 lb. fluke that he landed aboard the open boat, "Captree Queen."

was definitely fast and frantic. Fish were bailed continually all night long on sinker rigs.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** called to report the bluefishing continues fabulous at the outer grounds of Patchogue and at the offshore wrecks. Friday and Saturday night's charters pulled fish in the 12-15 lb. range, mainly on bait. Daytime fishing is all jigs, bananas, and banana splits. Due to a last minute cancellation, the boat has October 20 and 21 open.

Captain Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** happily reports that the bluefishing is still outrageously outrageous at Patchogue's outer banks or around the Oregon, both days and nights. Gordon says Saturday night's trip with 40 passengers had to be the best trip of the year thus far, that fishing was super fast on all big fish around the Oregon. Over 600 blues bounced onto the deck in the 8-18 lb. range, nothing smaller. Very few fish were under 10 lbs. Wow!

OAK BEACH

Hays at **The Store** reports blackfishing now getting into full swing. Fish are taken from the Rockpiles right next to **The Store** while boatmen take fish at the Kismet Reef and the Robert Moses Bridge. Shore casters have been taking the fish on clams and worms while boatmen have been using fiddlers. Small flounder starting to make a showing and both snappers and crabs still around.

Tom Mikoleski and a close-up shot of his 9 lb. blackfish taken aboard brother Pete's boat, the Tiderunner. Subscriber photo.

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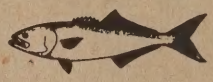

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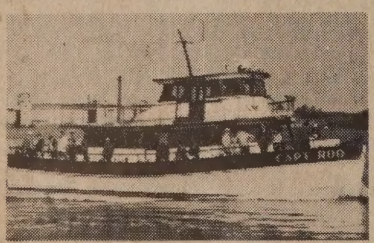

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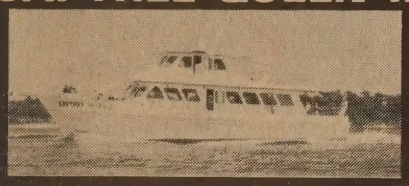

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Six-year-old Jason Mandel caught this blue shark weighing 85 lbs. aboard the My Princess. Subscriber photo.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS
★BEST BET★
MIXED BAG

SEAFORD

Capt. Eddy's Fishing Station reports Massapequa Cove has been giving folks plenty of action on a mixed bag of porgies, flounder, kings, blows, sea bass, and snappers. Blacks at the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh on fiddlers and clam. Flounder should bloom with cooler weather coming. Weaks and blues have been taken at the bridge at the change of tide on live baby blackfish and snapper.

Wanser's Bait and Tackle reports flounder catches are improving at Squaw Island, Four Corners and Massapequa Cove, with sand porgies mixed in. Bob Marcel had 5 bass, ranging from 20-40 lbs. drifting bunker just west of Jones Inlet in the early morning hours. Blues and weaks at the bridges on drifted live bunker and on chunks. A few schoolie stripers mixed in. Blacks at the bridges and the outside wrecks. Still a few fluke in the inlet; blueclaws still around in traps, deep water.

Uncle Hermie's Fishing Station tells us on Sat., a group of adults and kids from St. Killian's School, Farmingdale, had a fishing outing arranged by Mr. Nat Swit. Approximately 200 fish was the score made up of 8 varieties including blueclaw crabs all at Massapequa Cove.

Pop's Fishing Station reports flounder being caught in large numbers, but they are still small. Rich Lang of Ronkokoma with a party of four had 118 keeper flounder this week, using bloods and clam belly chum. Eddie and Al Balango of Flushing took blacks and snappers at the 3rd bridge with fiddlers. Most boats are catching a mixed bag including porgies, snappers, flounder, sea bass and blacks fishing from Four Corners to the 3rd Bridge including Massapequa Cove.

BELLMORE

Merrick Tackle reports some stripers being taken on live bunker in the Jones Inlet area. Some bass and bluefish at the Meadowbrook Bridge, same bait. Small flounders and palm-sized porgies being picked at many spots all over the Bay.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports very small flounder and hand-sized porgies at various spots

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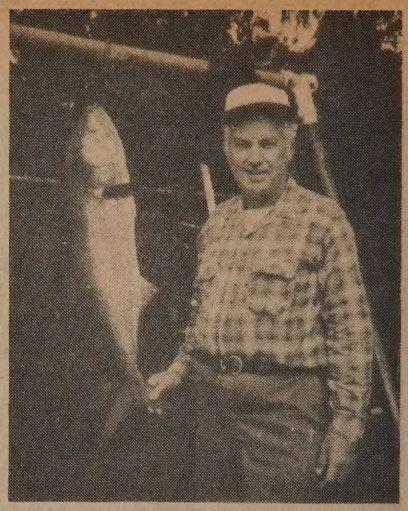

Art Greenspan stands alongside the 18 lb. 12 oz. blue that he landed in Jones Inlet. The big chopper was weighed in at Merrick Tackle.

all around Merrick Bay. A couple of areas that produced over the weekend were Carmen's Cut, Merrick Pt. and about 75' off the end of Nick's dock in 12'-15' of water. Best was on the last half of the flood. A 51 lb. striper was caught by Don Heller on Saturday morning on bunker in the Jones Inlet area. Some big blues on bunker on the Bay. Haunts Creek and the Wantagh bridge area are likely spots.

BALDWIN

Andy at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** tells us that flounders and blacks are being caught at the Meadowbrook and Wantagh bridges and that small flounder are being caught in Middle Bay. Crabs in traps in deeper water.

George Buzzetta and the crew aboard his boat, My Judy, pose with a 100 lb. mako.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★
MIXED BAG

FREEPORT

Freeport Boatmen's Association tells us that Friday the **Nite Owl II** and **Atlantic** carried the East Fishkill IBM Club for blues S.E. of Jones. They scored with over 300 big blues per boat fish up to 20 lbs. On the weekend, **Acme II, Norseman II, Flying Dutchman** and **Captain Joe** all fished blues at Cholera. They caught nice blues up to 15 lbs., albies up to 15 lbs., and bonito from 8-10 lbs. **North Star** and **Captain II** fished the bay and got a nice mixed bag of flounder, porgies, sea bass and blackfish.

The **Aloma II** reports that Harry Stama and friend Ray bagged 118 keeper flounder Saturday. Fares averaging 25-50 keepers a man, fish averaging a half pound.

Captain Sy Karlin of the charter boat **Bluefin II** called to say that except for Sunday the bluefishing all week long has been super-excellent, fishing S.E. of Jones Inlet. Saturday was a super bonanza of bluefish for the Rockville Center Fire Dept., all fish being caught on Ava Split Bananas. Some fish ran from 18-20 lbs. Captain Ed Geyer had the boat out Friday and Saturday nights and the charters bailed blues again fishing S.E. of the Inlet. Sy says he expects an excellent October on the blues.

Captain Mike Dannon of the **Capt. Lou III** reports excellent flounder fishing. Saturday's fares numbering 30 totaled approximately 1500 keeper flounder and a few sand porgies. Sunday, Bob, a regular, ended up with 71 flounder from ½ to ¾ lbs. Bernie Levine of New Hyde Park had 53 flounder. Mike says every-

Steve Ellinger and friends with a 314 lb. mako taken in 120' of water, S.E. of Jones Inlet aboard the charterboat "Sea Bee."

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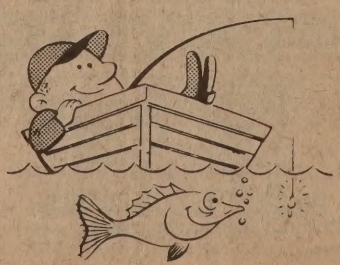


Don Kingren and his party with a nice catch of tuna, bonito, and blues taken aboard the "Shalidon," S.E. of Fire Island Inlet.

body is catching good numbers of fish.

Captain Richie of the **Starstream II** said that not counting Sunday with its fierce weather, the bluefishing has been sensational all week long on both day and night trips. The boat is fishing S.S.E. of the Inlet and fish are running up to 15 lbs. They time their anchoring up and jigging and at night it's sinker rigs on the bottom. Note that the boat has terminated the night trips for blues for the season.

John Caruso of **Capt. Ben's Fish Dock** on Tuesday afternoon pulled 30 lbs. worth of flounder fillet in just a few hours time in Baldwin Bay.

Bob at **Hook, Line and Sinker** says small flounder and porgies are all over the bay. Big blues have been caught in Reynold's Channel in the area of the Magnolia Street Pier on bunker chunks and also on live bunker. Rumors of some tuna at the Mud Hole.

Charvin Fishing Station reports that Saturday, Cholera, offshore Patchogue and the area of the Oregon Wreck produced heavy catches of bluefish. Lots of big blues on various wrecks also, with some albies and bonito mixed in. Frank Serbina of the Freeport Tuna Club and 2 friends on Frank's boat, Scorpio, fished way offshore and managed 10 cod to 29½ lbs. They also had some big pollack and 6 hefty blackfish. Small flounder and porgies all over the bay, in the ½ lb. variety.

Charterboat **Shalidon** called and informed us that Friday's charter for Tommy Donovan of Inwood and group bagged over 400 lbs. of big

Three-year-old Anthony Abatemarco landed this 3 lb. 10 oz. fluke on a flounder rig aboard the Lourie D. Photo courtesy of Nick's Fishing Station.

blues in the 15 lb. class on light spinning gear fishing east of Jone's. Saturday's charter for Bruce Qwinn of Jersey, son Jeff, Jim and George Arlin both age 11 and Alan Pastel of CT., put away over 300 lbs. of blues on spinning tackle, working the same area. Sunday's charter was for Wink Carman, the U.S. Ambassador to Poland, the Polish Minister of State and Foreign Affairs and also the Polish General Counsel. Due to heavy weather outside, they stayed in the Bay and had a lot of action on flounder and sand porgies.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reported that last week saw very good catches of blackfish made at the bridges and the T wreck on fiddles, green crabs and clams. Sea bass and sand porgies provide action at Buoys 16 and 18 in Reynold's Channel and small flounders now being taken on the Flats, in Swift Creek and in Reynold's Channel.

At **Scotty's Fishing Station**, we were told of good blackfishing at the bridges on fiddler crabs. Small blues being taken in the Inlet and up and down the Channel with bigger choppers in 20 to 40' of water off of Lido. Flounders now being taken in both the Bay and Inlet. Flatties are still small.

ISLAND PARK

Charlie at **Beckmann's Tackle Shop** dittoed previous reports of good blackfishing at the local bridges. Some anglers scored with small flounder on Saturday. This fishing is just getting started. Charlie reminded that big blues still roam up and down Reynold's Channel chasing schools of bunker. The fishing is hit or miss but can be wild if your in the right place at the right time.

Captain Clem of the **Commodore** tells us that despite the poor weather this weekend, flounder activity was pretty good with fares averaging 20-30 flounder a man, fish in the 1/2 lb. class. Lots of midgets. Hand-sized porgies in certain areas also. Lots of action. An occasional 1½ lber. is bagged as a pool fish. Flounder will increase in size as the water cools off.

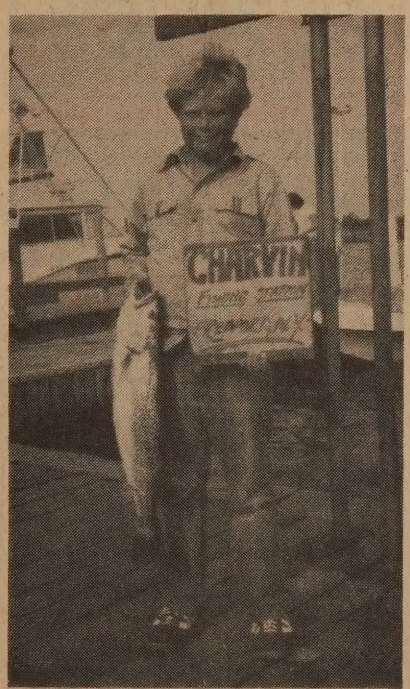
JAMAICA BAY

John at **Cross Bay Bait & Tackle** said that both the north and south Channel bridges have been producing porgies on worms and small blackfish on fiddlers and clam bait.

Larry at **Seaman's Bait** tells of sand porgies in the channel and blues on bunker chunks in the channel, blues going 3-15 lbs. in the late afternoon. The Rockaway Beach jetties have been having super blackfishing on fiddlers.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Sal at **Stella Maris Bait and Tackle** reports the bluefish boats are enjoying very good catches of blues day and night at the Tin Can, 17 Fathoms, and off the Jersey Coast. Good weaks being caught at the Tin



Donald Carmienski landed this 7¼ lb. weak while fluking in Jones Inlet with his father Dave. Photo courtesy of Charvin Fishing Station.

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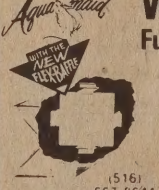

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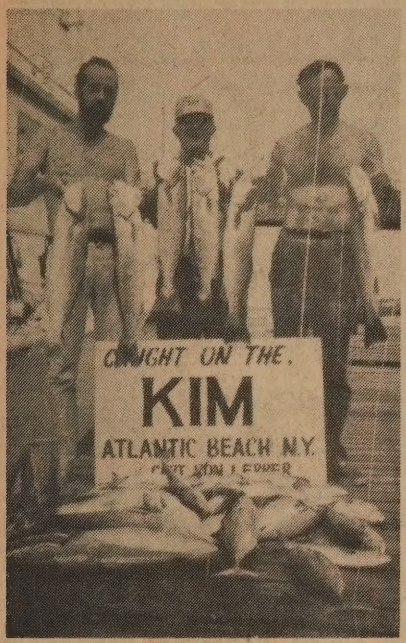

This nice catch of big weaks, blues, and bonito was made on the "Kim" by Dennis Morgan, Nick Schanaldi and Don Honigstock. Lupo umbrellas fished at Breezy Point took the fish.

Can and at the Channels on jigs and on bunkers, worms, or clam. Blackfish from 1-3 lbs. on the wrecks and off the jetty stones. Snappers at Gerritsen Beach and Jamaica Bay with a few fluke still being picked at Ambrose and off Coney Island.

Captain Walter of the **Flamingo III** reported consistent fishing in the harbor, the Highlands and at Ambrose and South Channels. Most blues ranged 2-5 lbs., with some nice weakfish, bonito and albacore mixed in with daily catches. Fishermen aboard took 10-35 fish per person on Ava 27's. Some sharpies aboard took 45-50 of these nice sized fish. Good fishing was found at most stages of the tide, with best action taking place at the end of a running tide. The Captain said that as we get further into the fall, bass action will certainly pick up.

The **Dorothy B** found steady fishing for blacks, sea bass and porgies at offshore wrecks, 1½ hours from the dock. Porgies up to 2 lbs. were taken on clam bait and sea bass to 3 lbs. along with nice sized blackfish were taken on crabs.

The **Zephyr** told of good blackfishing all week, fishing Long Branch, Sea Bright, Alberon and offshore Jersey coast. Blackfish ran to 7 lbs. and fishermen filled one-half to a full five gallon pail each. The boat's blackfish contest for the biggest fish is being held right now by a 14 lb. 6 oz. fish, this is the mark for you

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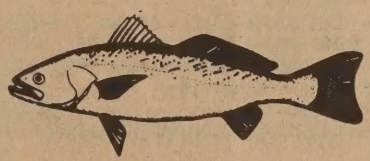

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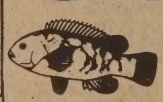

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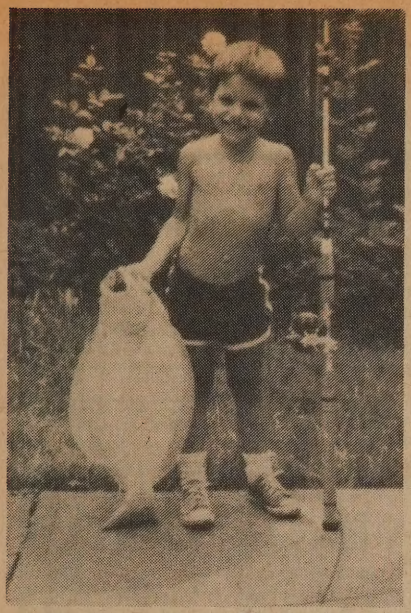
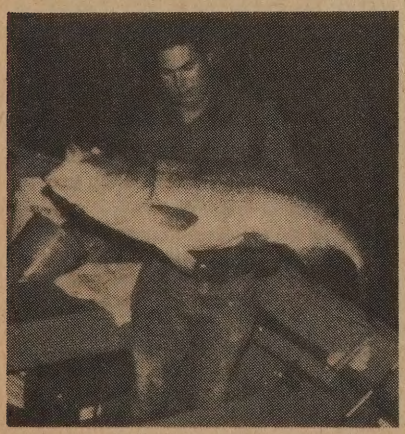


This pool winning 5¾ lb. fluke was landed by 4-year-old Eric Cangelosi aboard the Sheepshead Bay open boat, "Blue Sea III."

guys to beat. Most blackfish taken aboard are hitting green crabs, but fiddlers are also taking fish. On Sunday, the boat ran into some porgy action, fishermen filling up to a pail with ½ to ¾ lb. fish hitting clam bait.

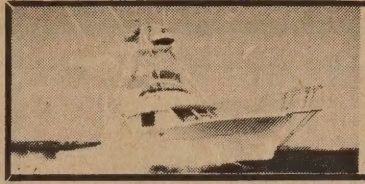
STATEN ISLAND

Lenny at **Santo's Sport Shop** told us of big weaks in the 8 to 10 lb. class along with an occasional 12 to 13 pounder, blues in the 5 to 10 lb. class, and school stripers in Great Kills Harbor for boatmen using whole or chunk bunker. Still a few school bass at Hoffman and Swinburn Islands on sandworms and flounder and blackfish action improves with each passing week.



Greg Nisito of Sea Isle Sports, Freeport, admires his 53 lb. 8 oz. trophy striper. The huge bass took a live bunker at the construction dock in Jones Inlet.

★FREEPORT★



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GREENPORT

A.P White Bait Shop said that anglers are making some good blackfish scores on the north side of Plum Island and near the Orient Lighthouse. Fish are being taken on both fiddlers and green crabs. Good porgy action at Fishers and Plum Islands. Some of the fish go up to 2½ lbs. On the east side of Gardiner's Island, porgies and sea bass have been keeping anglers busy. Blues in Pigeon Rip, at Plum Island, the Race and east of Gardiner's. Most of the choppers are being taken on diamond jigs. Art noted that there has been an upturn in bass aciton at the Sluiceway with some jumbo stripers beginning to show again.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** called to tell us fishing still continues in Noyac Bay, the weaks and porgies are slowing considerably and that the flounder are taking over. As of October 1, the Marina will be open 8AM to 5PM, closed Wed. Sat. and Sun. they'll be open 6AM to 5PM.

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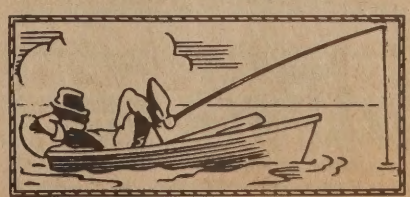

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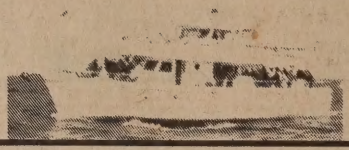

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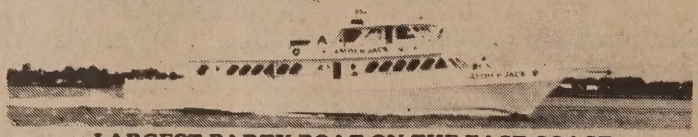

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"PILOT II" of Sheepshead Bay is now booking her *CHARTERBOAT*—Expert performance, reasonable prices!
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★BLUEFISH★
Klondike VII
SAILS 8 AM DAILY
The *Klondike VII* will no longer be sailing from its present location. We are now docked at the end of Fort Slocum Rd. off of Pelham Road, New Rochelle.
CAPT. PETE PEARSON (914) 738-4593

NEPTUNE POWER SQUADRON TO SPONSOR ANNUAL SAIL BOAT RACE

The annual "Neptune Cup" race, sponsored by the Neptune Power Squadron will be held in Huntington Bay on Saturday October 13. Registration fee is $2.00 and participation in the race is open to all crusing class sailboaters. The starting line for the race will be between Target Rock Bell Buoy #8 and the Power Squadron's Committee boat. Preparatory Gun will be fired at 10:30. Four course, in the area of Bells "15" and "11B", and the Red-Black Buoy off Eaton's Neck, have been selected. The race will be conducted under USYRU Rules.

Boaters interested in participating must contact Mr. Warren Lipman, Sail Race Committee Chairman at 271-1365 by October 6, or a soon thereafter as possible. Enterants must supply name of boat and owner, owner's address and phone number, and boat's Performance Handicap Rating Formula (PHRF), if not already rated by the Squadron's 1979 Race Committee. Owners who do not have PHRF's may supply required rating information (e.g. length overall, type of rig, length of luff, etc.).

All sailors, from novice to advanced, are encouraged, by the sponsors, to enter this contest which offers an opportunity to improve racing skills while enjoying an exciting day on the water. Plaques will be awarded to the winners in each of two divisions and their names inscribed on the "Neptune Cup"

Frank Acierno hefts the 23 lb. blue that he landed on a live bunker in Hempstead Harbor. The giant chopper, the largest taken on the North Shore this year, was weighed in at Bill's Rowboat Station. Subscriber photo.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

★ BEST BET ★ BLUEFISH

ROCKY POINT

Stan at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** said that blackfishing can now be described as "very good" with some of the tautogs going up to 8 lbs. A recent surge in porgy action last week and abled some anglers to score well along local Sound Beaches. Clams and worms take the porgies. Boatmen continue to jig blues in the Sound, most run 2 to 5 lbs. with the bigger fish usually taken at the Middle Grounds. Some of these fish go up to 16 lbs. A few bonito mixed in with the blues and a couple of small flounder beginning to show.

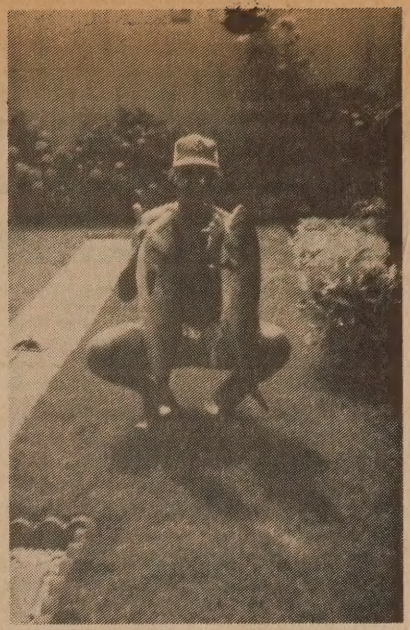
MT. SINAI HBR.

The word from **Ralph's Fishing Station** was poor weather has hampered boatmen trying to get out into the Sound. When they can, big blackfish have been taken at Miller Place. Also some very nice porgies remain just outside of the Harbor. Best bet for porgies are clams or worms. An occasional big weakfish is also landed by those seeking porgies.

PORT JEFFERSON

Timmy at **Caraftis Fishing Station** reports plenty of porgies still around. Small sand porgies inside the harbor. Bigger fish, up to 2 lbs., out in the Sound. Blues still being jigged at buoy 11. These fish run 2 to 5 lbs. One angler weighed in a 19 lb. chopper which he took at the Middle Grounds. Good blackfishing now on all the rockpiles for those using green crabs or fiddlers. Tim suggested Old Field Point and Crane's Neck for blackfish hopefuls.

Thirty-one blues for Joseph Accetta, Patrick Accetta, and John Tarasco. Fish were taken on Rebels at the mouth of the Nissequogue River. Photo courtesy of O.K. Bait Shop.



This pair of blues weighing 16 and 15 lbs., respectively, were landed by Anthony Cecco at buoy 32A in L. I. Sound. They were part of a catch of 16 big choppers. Subscriber photo.

SAG HARBOR

Captain Artie Latch of the **Wilhelric** tells us porgy fishing couldn't be better, to the tune of 60-70 jumbos per man up to 3 lbs. The boat is fishing east of Gardiner's and at Plum and Little Gull. Super catches for all. Blacks are starting to show. The fish are small now due to warm water temperatures. Artie will be staying with the red hot porgy fishing until the water cools off sufficiently so that the giant blackfish come out of hiding.

PROMISED LAND

Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station reported flounder fishing excellent in the harbor. On Saturday one customer had 30 flounder up to 1¼ lbs. and they're hungry at all tides. Porgy action still excellent and should remain so until the water colds up just outside the harbor.

AQUEBOGUE

At **Warren's Bait & Tackle** we learned of very good flounder action for both boatmen and beach fishermen at Orient. Some of the flatties have run up to 2½ lbs. On the Sound side, blackfish and porgies both in good quantity and trollers continue to take bluefish in the 7 to 10 lb. class on tube lures. Occasionally choppers up to 16 lbs. show up in the catches. In the Bay, squid, worms and clams continue to take porgies and weakfish at buoy 22.

KINGS PARK

O.K. Bait Shop relayed word that Norman Schwartz returned with a 5 gallon pail full of big porgies which he took on skimmer clams at Crane's Neck. Bob thought that use of a chum pot helped Norm with his catch. Between Thursday and Friday, Jim "Skeet" Wells, Arnold Discorsi and Bob, totaled 200 lbs. or large porgies and 20 blues up to 10 lbs. Fishing was done down at Eaton's Neck. On Saturday morning, Paul Bruno weighed in a 13 lb. blue which he took at Eaton's Neck on a diamond jig.

NORTHPORT

At **Bowman's Sporting Goods** Tom told us that big blues in the 15 to 20 lb. class continue to harass the bunker and anglers alike. There is no set pattern to when or where the fish will feed, you just have to be at the right place at the right time. Many of the fish hooked are lost due to their size. Smaller blues in the 3 to 5 lb. class still being diamond jigged out in the Sound and blackfishing improving daily along with the flounder, which have recently begun to make a showing. Tom

FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED

To place an ad in *The Long Island Fisherman's* classified ad section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read, along with your check or money order for the full amount. *(Sorry, no billing.)* Rates for non-subscribers are 25-cents per word, 30 word ($7.50) minimum. Subscribers of *The Fisherman* receive a discount if they include the number off their subscription label. Classified rates for subscribers are: 20 cents per word, 30 word ($6.00) minimum. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times, 15%. to run a photograph with an ad, add $16.80 to the words.

BOATS & MOTORS

1976 AQUASPORT Family Fisherman 1976, 85 h.p. Evinrude. Full canvas, inst. panel; CB; depth finder. Compass, elect. wipers and bilge. In slip. Excl. condition. $5500. 212-456-3543.

1978 Evinrude 200—used only one season with brand new power trim. Completely reconditioned over winter. In perfect condition. New paint, prop., plugs, etc. Contact: Al Ristori, 201-334-8059 or 516-668-3130. Motor can be seen at B&T Boat Co., Montauk Hwy., East Hampton.

MAKO 25' 1976 Deep V. 200 h.p. Evinrude. Excellent condition. Hardly used. Full canvas; cushions; compass. Extras. Best Offer. Call Neil, evenings: 516-767-2684.

G/W 1978 GULFSTREAM 140 OMC. Dacron bridge canvas. Complete. Rod holders; radio; CG equipped. Many extras. In water. $9500. EDDIE'S MARINE. 212-327-3088.

19' 1976 GALAXY BOWRIDER, 120 h.p Merc I/O. Canvas. Neat. All equipment. $3675 EDDIE'S MARINE. 212-327-3088.

19' ARISTOCRAFT HARDTOP, 120 OMC. Like new. 1978. All CG equip. $5695. EDDIE'S MARINE. 212-327-3088.

22' 1979 SISU Inboard, lobster canopy hardtop, 4 cyl. Volvo engine, FWC. Fully equipped for sportfishing, loaded with extras. Four flush mount rod holders, automatic Loran C, CB radio, compass. Cuddy cabin with ample storage space and one bunk. Dual battery system. Stern controls and tiller bar. In the water, ready to go. Will demonstrate. Call Ken at 516-728-8566.

1978 MAKO 25' Evinrude 235; total 95 hrs. Complete canvas, CB, depth finder, spotlight, ETC. Cleanest 25 available. $10,900. Weekdays 8-5. 516-582-4566.

1979 1979 EVINRUDES 1979 1979
2-$244; 4-$328; 6-$460; 9.9-$628; 15-$710; 25-$850; 35-$950; 50-$1197; 55-$1348; 70-$1538; 85-$1740; 100-$1810; 115-$1875- 140-$1975; 150-$2500; 175-$2580; 200-$2680; 235-$2860. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere.

30' REPCO Fiberglas jonesport hull boat with 6 cylinder original Palmer engine rebuilt last year. Completely outfitted for professional sportfishing. Hardtop, 2 fish boxes, compass, Sitex white line graph recorder, CB radio, digital depth recorder, rod racks, cabin with one bunk, etc. $15,000. Call John at 516-668-5130. In water, ready to go, will demonstrate.

30' Wooden Lapstrake Boat, the kind they don't build anymore. Built like a tank, ribs 6" on center. Full keel and flybridge. Eight cylinder Palmer engine with only 400 hrs. Huge insulated fish box, tiller bar, dual batteries, cabin sleeps 2. Large cockpit with two fighting chairs. Excellent seaworthy boat for sportfishing or commercial fishing; for lobsters, light dragging, pinhookers, etc. Call Scott at 516-668-9369. $4000.

1977 WELLCRAFT V20 Cuddy Cabin 140 I/O OMC. Power Tilt and Trim. Freshwater flush; canvas; Ritchie Compass; rod holders; live baitwell; C.G. pkg. Extras. Mint. Must sell; in water. $6500. 212-648-1205.

22' CHRIS CRAFT Center Console, 1974 Inboard 200 h.p. Low hours. Immaculate. Trim tabs; SS bow rail; CB antenna. Winter cover. Auto. bilge pump; blower, etc. 516-744-5724.

1977 GLASTRON V202 Center Console. Rod Holders, compass. Excellent condition. And 1978 Mercury 175 h.p. Less than 25 hrs. MUST SELL. $8700. Call 914-357-4379.

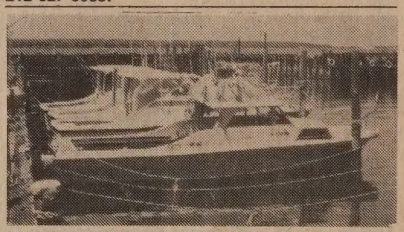
16' CENTER CONSOLE, custom craft Fiberglas. 1976 50 h.p. Merc; 7½ h.p. aux. Bimini top; Lowrance flasher. In water; excellent condition. $2200. 458-2354 after 6PM.

34' CUSTOM SPORTFISHING Machine. Fully equipped; all electronics. Excellent condition. Will demo. $6000. 516-581-2380.

1979 HYDRA-SPORTS 2100 Center Console. Fully rigged for shark fishing, offshore trolling, and all inshore fishing. Johnson 200 h.p. with SST prop. Deluxe console with tackle compartment. Rod racks; stainless railing. Stainless T-Top; compass, Sitex recorder; Horizon VHS and console cover. Other extras include stainless bow rail; teak tackle box seat and cover; bait rigging compartments; outriggers; built-in live well. Clean; professionally maintained and serviced. Call SHORE HAVEN MARINA, 201-892-6625. Reasonably priced.

24' 1974 SEA RAY 188 h.p. Merc. I/O, Cuddy; head. Complete canvas; VHF radio; Coast Guard equipment. $6950. EDDIE'S MARINE, 212-327-3088.

23' 3" SEACRAFT 1976 Sportfisherman Cuddy. Fully equipped. Twin 115 h.p. Evinrude; SST Props. Very clean. $9495. EDDIE'S MARINE. 212-327-3088.



30' SPORTSCRAFT 1972 Fiberglas; flybridge; Bimini top. Large cockpit; 440 Chrysler inboard; FW cooled, recently rebuilt. Hydraulic steering; 3 depth finders; CB & VHF radios. Outriggers. Built-in stereo player. More. $9500. 516-324-6708.

27' SPORTCRAFT, Flybridge, twin 155 h.p. OMC. Trim tabs, outriggers, VHF radio. Excellent fishing; economical offshore boat. $6500. 516-589-6061.

CHRIS CRAFT 28' Coho 1973. Put in water '74; FG; FB; T/20 h.p. only 410 hrs.; VHF; CB; Flasher; Ross recorder. Anchor windlass. Full Bimini; 110v Refrigerator. Pressure water; teak and Lee rod holders. Full carpeting; deck box/well. Surprisingly economical to run. In water. List price-$22,500. Leaving area; sacrifice. Make offer. Owner 516-367-4766.

19½' CRUISERS INC. 1974 pkg. 115 Johnson O.B., Cox trailer-galv., equipped with power winch, 2 elec. wipers; tach.; bilge pump; new battery; depth finder, and extra too numerous to mention. Perfect cruising or fishing boat. In excellent condition. $4200. 516-354-6812. After 3PM 516-234-9375.

1975 27' SILVERTON, Fiberglas 220 Crusader; dual stations. Family and Fishing Boat. Two 60-gal. tanks, 2 props.; 2 batteries; flybridge cover; fishing chair. Under 150 hours. Hardly used. $12,500. $12,500. 516-378-3026.

25' LUHRS CUSTOM BUILT Center Console Sportfisherman 20' by 9' open fishing area. Rebuilt 6 cyl. Chrysler Crown; new gas tank; exhaust manifold; value job and top. In water. Slip paid for. Weekdays 9-4. 212-675-5179. $675.

24' 1974 SEA RAY WEEKENDER 225 OMC Stand-up head; galley; sleeps 4. Loaded with extras. Will demo. 516-567-2372. $7500.

25' NOVA OFFSHORE: new pair of 351 Holman Moody Fords with velvet touch transmission and Crusader V drives. New upholstery; Si-Tex recorder. Mint condition. 516-589-6061.

MAKO 19' 1975, 115 Johnson. Bimini; spray hood; compass. Full gauges; VHF; depth finder, Morse controls; outriggers. Coast Guard pkg. Rod holders; giant ice chest. Excellent condition. $4500 Evenings. 914-937-3193.

1979—STARCRAFT SALE—1979
4 - 16' Aluminum Seafairer Open Skiffs; lightweight, trailerable seaworthy, including freight. $729. One - 21' Center Console Marine, Binnacle control; cables & tach., including freight. $2799. Financing available. DAVE BOFILL MARINA, 1810 North Sea Road, Southampton, N.Y. 516-283-6736.

1978 22' Hydrosport C.C. Deep Vee, Keular hull, 1978 175 h.p. Johnson Deluxe console & seat. Washdown and bait well; dual batteries and more extras. Excellent condition. Must be seen. 516-223-6110.

MAKO 20' 1976, 150 h.p. Mercury; S/S wheel; custom console; VHF; white line recorder; 12 pole holders. Full canvas. Mint condition. $5500. Eves: 212-468-9277.

25' TROJAN '70 CRUISER—Sea Raider exp. hardtop, Fiberglas, repowered Aug. '77. Chrysler 250 h.p., digital D/S, Sitex white line recorder; elec. anchor winch; swim platform & ladder; trim tabs; GPH meter & totalizer; speedometer/odometer, CB. $9500. 914-937-1315.

23' MACKENZIE BASS BOAT 327 Chevy. Monel tanks; rear tiller & controls; 300' new anchor line; new bilge pump; Gemtronics recorder; CB. Extras; very clean. $3750. Eves: 516-935-5359. Days: 212-675-6688.

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This 5 lb. 2 oz. largemouth bass came from a small pond in Merrick. It was taken by Robert Braine and released after being weighed and photographed. Subscriber photo.

suggested black can 13 and Buoy 11B for those looking for blackfish.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** said that big blues roamed the harbors all last week. Most of the fish run from 13 to 17 lbs. The best action has been in the early a.m. or late afternoon, but the fish have a tendency to show up where and when they are least expected. Two to 5 lb. blues on jigs at the Obstruction Buoy. Bigger blues, along with some school bass, at Buoy 11B, on wire and umbrella rigs or bucktails. George described the blackfishing as decent now, Marshall Field, Callahan's, 11B, Target Rock and the Greens all produced fish last week. A few flounders starting to show inside the Harbor and some bigger flatties outside off of Marshall Field on worms.

From **Ronnie's Bait & Tackle** we again received confirmation of the big blues roaming area harbors. Friday morning, Joe Cornvery and Jim Piacenti weighed in 3 blues in the 15 to 16 lb. class and told of breaking off a number of other fish. Action took place in Huntington Harbor. Saturday morning, Steve Bly used a diamond jig to take 2 blues at Buoy 11B including a slammer of 18 lbs. Smaller blues still being jigged at the Obstruction Buoy and good blackfishing at Marshall Field and 11B on fiddlers and greens. Porgies up to 3 lbs. continue to take clam bait at Eaton's Neck.

Captain Ray of the charter boat **Eclipse** called to tell of a fantastic porgy weekend for Saturday's charter consisting of Maurice Curtis, John Curtis, just retired from the Air Force and John's son Myron, who celebated his birthday on the boat. They banged away at 2-3 lb. porgies and really loaded up. They then completed the day in the Sound at 11B with bluefish in the 4-8 lb. range and also had a few 12 lbers. See the boat's new fall program in ad.

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COLD SPRING Hbr.

Tom at **Salty's Bait & Tackle** said the place to be for big blues in Cold Spring Harbor was off the fuel tanks mornings and evenings. Last Thursday, Frank Diana used both live and chunk bunker to take 18 blues upto 17½ lbs. at this location. For blackfish fans, Tom mentioned Stehlis Beach and Target Rock. Some flounders up to ¾ lb. at Center Island and also in the Harbor off of the docks. Porgies and weakfish up to 5 lbs. continue to take worms fished on hi-lo rigs in the harbor channel. Bluefish up to 5 lbs. jigged at Lloyd's Point last week and plenty of sand porgies still being taken off of the town dock.

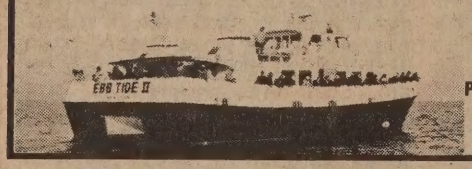
GLEN COVE

Captain Joe Finke of the **Lady Lil II** reports fishing has been excellent all week, except for Sunday, a washout due to the weather. Most days high hook has been over 20 fish, ranging anywhere from 2-20 lb. bluefish. All have been taken on diamond jigs, with the best spot being buoy 11B and off the Norwalk Islands.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle reported a couple of super bluefish scores made by a trio of anglers last week at Execution Light. John Bianco, Jim Smith and Ron Lapsky used bunker to take 7 blues in the 16 to 21 lb. class one day and the next day took 20 slammers up to 22 lbs. This actio occured late last week but Jack said that plenty of big blues continue to roam the area. School bass still being taken at Hart's and High Islands on Rebels, bucktails and worms. Jack called the porgy and blackfishing good and said that there are loads of small flounder and tons of butterfish around.

★CITY ISLAND★



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SURF REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Last weekend's east winds were not exactly what the doctor ordered but did stimulate surf action in a couple of areas. Montauk casters enjoyed good action Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights upfront, with weaks, bass and blues. A flurry of bass activity in the area of Smith's Point Park was described by some as blitz fishing. Taking into consideration the past couple of seasons, blitz fishing was probably a fairly accurate description. If the five day forecast holds up, we may get a good nor'easter by the end of the week. This combined with the October full moon may provide some of the best action of the Fall.

SOUTH SHORE: EAST END

"Good action all weekend" was the word from **Johnny's** at Montauk. Lots of small blues in the 3 to 5 lb. class taken from Ditch Plains around to False Bar from Friday on. Bottle plugs and darters took big weakfish, bass from the teens to low 20s, and bluefish under the Light all three nights. While most of the blues taken have been less than 5 lbs., John did weigh in a pair of choppers taken by one angler working the Fort Saturday night. Two fish weighed 15½ and 17 lbs. respectively.

Thom at **Speck's Bait & Tackle** passed along word that the Southampton and Shinnecock Beaches came alive last week. Both stripers and blues fell to pencil poppers and swimming plugs at the Inlet jetty. Fish were also spread along the Sand Beach with some of the blues going up to 12 lbs. Among the bass weighed in during the week by Thom were fish of 42, 32½ and 21½ lbs. The 42 pounder was taken on a tin by a caster who did not leave his name.

Several reliable sources reported good action along the National seashore stretch of beach, west of Smith's Point. The action apparently continued throughout the week and into the weekend. Great South Bay Angler's member Steve Jendricks clicked with a 19 lb. striper on a popper one evening last week and then put six school bass on the beach over the weekend. According to reports I received, bass in the 30 lb. class were among fish put on the beach.

SOUTH SHORE: WEST END

Not much happened in this area over the weekend" according to Hays at **The Store**. He did know of a 32 lb. bass taken on a plug at Cedar over the weekend and saw a few big blues up to 15 lbs. at the same location. The blues fell to casters tossing live eels. With the exception of one school bass Friday a.m. at Gilgo, yours truly did nothing despite putting in a lot of hours from the Thumb to Gilgo.

According to Ed, proprieter of **Ed's Fishing Station** in Point Lookout, casters have been regularly taking bass in the 10 to 15 lb. class along with small blues at the Point Lookout Jetty. Most of the action is in the early mornings hours on popping plugs.

From **Scotty's Fishing Station** we learned that John Vacca put 5 tiderunner weaks on the rocks at the Point Lookout Jetty Saturday morning. The fish which ran from 10 to 12 lbs. were all taken on small live blackfish. John told of dropping 7 other weaks the same morning.

Andy Carbo with one of 13 blues up to 16 lbs. taken on light tackle at Shoreham. Catch was checked in at Rocky Pt. Fishing Stop.

Charlie Beckmann reminded that the huge choppers that have been roaming Reynold's Channel put in an occasional appearance at the Magnolia Pier. Casters on the spot when the fish show do a good job. Charlie added that a couple of casters reported taking big blues from the Point Lookout surf on both poppers and swimmers late last week.

John at **Cross Bay Bait & Tackle** said that big blues, up to 12 lbs. are being taken after dark and in the early morning hours from the North and South Channel Bridges on bunker chunks. A few weaks are mixed with the choppers.

Lenny at **Santo's Sport Shop** described the Staten Island surf scene as a generally slow pick. Blues up to 12 lbs. are being taken on bunker chunks at the South Beach storm sewers and along the beach from New Dorp to Great Kills. No striper news with the exception of a few small bass at Cliff St. on Rebels or bucktails.

NORTH SHORE: WEST END

From **Jack's Bait & Tackle** we learned that big blues continue to take chunk bait in Turtle Cove and along Orchard Beach. Two 18 pounders were weighed in by casters over the weekend. Plenty of school bass continue to be taken in the same area on small white bucktails, Rebels, and sandworms.

Not much surf news along the remaining stretch of this part of the Sound although Tom at **Salty's Bait & Tackle** in Cold Spring Harbor reported a few blues in the 2 to 5 lb. class taken by casters at Center Island. Also **Ronnie's Tackle Shop** in Huntington passed along word that Carl Armstrong took two 5 lb. blues from the Beach at Caumsett Friday evening on poppers.

NORTH SHORE: EAST END

Tom Bowman said that the only surf aciton in the Northport area has been at the power plant. Blues, in the 12 to 13 lb. class have been showing up with no set pattern. Casters that are there when the fish do show take them on popping plugs.

Moving east to Rocky Point, Stan of the **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** told me that bluefish action was good all last week with fish mixed in sizes from 2 to 16 lbs. Stan himself had fish every morning last week. Plenty of bunker in the area along with large schools of sand eels. The best bluefish action has been from Hagerman's Landing east to Shoreham. Best time, daybreak or just before dark. Fish are being taken on plugs and tin with most of the bigger fish being taken on cut bait after dark. Stan also knew of a few bass along the beaches east of Wading River, but nothing to get excited about.

CAPE REPORT

From what we could gather, action on the Cape had been pretty fair last week. Quite a few stripers in the 30 to 50 lb. class taken out on the Cape along with lots of big blues. Word has it that some big fish are now being taken during the daylight hours on plugs as well as bait. A few jumbo stripers along with some blues taken by casters in the east end of the canal.

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